

جريدة الأردن

# Jordan Times

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## EC to review Mideast policy

THE HAGUE (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers will review their Middle East policy here next week after Jordan's suspension of talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Dutch officials said Friday. Among ideas on the agenda is Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's proposal for a peace mission by a "contact group" of eminent Europeans, the officials said. The foreign ministers of the 12 meet on Tuesday in The Hague, current seat of the rotating EC presidency, for a regular session of foreign policy discussions. They needed to review peace prospects in the Middle East, and discuss possible EC contributions, because of a setback to Jordanian peace efforts which the community had hoped would yield real progress, the Dutch officials said.

## U.S. spy commits suicide

MANASSAS, Virginia (AP) — Convicted spy Larry Wu-Tai Chin committed suicide on Friday, the U.S. Marshals Service said, two weeks after the retired CIA translator was convicted of spying for China. Chin killed himself by placing a plastic bag over his head, said a Justice Department official who spoke on condition of anonymity. Chin was believed to have died at 9:35 a.m., said William Dempsey, a spokesman for the Marshals Service. He was being held in the Prince William County jail pending sentencing March 17. Convicted on all 17 counts of conspiracy, espionage and tax evasion, he faced a maximum sentence of life imprisonment and fines of up to \$2.5 million. Dempsey said Marshals are investigating the death in the suburban Washington jail, along with Prince William County authorities.

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## Fahd sends message to Assad

DAMASCUS (R) — Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal arrived here Friday for second time this week to follow up his country's efforts to halt the latest Gulf war fighting. Prince Saud and his Kuwaiti counterpart, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, visited Damascus last Sunday to seek Syrian assistance in a bid to stop the bloodshed. Prince Faisal told reporters on Friday he carried a message to President Hafez Al Assad from King Fahd, dealing with the two countries' latest contacts.

## Bomb explodes in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — An explosive charge went off at a bus stop in the north Jerusalem suburb of French Hill on Friday, but no one was hurt since no passengers were present at the time, police said. The blast was the second this week in French Hill. The first blast also failed to cause casualties.

## Way cleared for probe on Kohl

BONN (AP) — Prosecutors have informed the Bundestag (parliament) of plans to investigate Chancellor Helmut Kohl, clearing the way for the first-ever probe of a West German head of government, officials said Friday. The notification came as embassies in Bonn and Berlin were investigating the alleged involvement of Kohl's Christian Democratic Party in the "Blackout" during the investigation of the 1982 German election. Under West German law, prosecutors can open a legal investigation against the chancellor 48 hours after they inform the parliamentary president of the move.

## 'Carlos' is dead, Israeli paper says

TEL AVIV (R) — The international terrorist "Carlos" is believed dead and probably buried in Libya, according to Israel's Government, a report published Friday. David Goren, an intelligence official, said "Carlos" was probably killed by Libyan agents because he knew too much about Arab intelligence networks.

## Kidnapped Libyan freed in Pakistan

KARACHI (AP) — A Libyan businessman kidnapped with his driver last Sunday was freed on Thursday after a gun battle between police and his captors, police said Friday. Police said Ahmad Muhammad Ammar, 45, was tossed into the bushes of a residential area from the car of his abductors after a gunfight with police. His Pakistani chauffeur Iqbal Akbar was still missing while his captors fled the scene. Mr. Ammar works as deputy managing director at a Pakistan-Libyan holding company in Karachi. He was kidnapped on his way to his office last Sunday.

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# King's historic speech draws renewed pledges of support from citizens

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

CABLES AND messages of support for His Majesty King Hussein's address to the nation on Wednesday continued to pour into the Royal Court on Friday as various Jordanian institutions, organisations, associations and dignitaries representing various walks of life reaffirmed their support of the King and his policies.

In his historic and comprehensive speech on Wednesday, the King outlined and reviewed in depth Jordan's efforts for a just solution to the Palestinian problem and said the Kingdom was terminating joint political moves with the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

A strong message of support of the King's stand was among cables received at the Royal Court on Friday. The message, signed by 24 political activists headed by Dr. Jamal Al Shaer, said the King's "historical speech reassured us of the basis for (the King's) regional and national leadership."

"It (the King's speech) contained precise and honest information and addressed the minds and hearts of the Jordanian people, who are ready to support you in your endeavours to regain Al Aqsa Mosque and Arab Jerusalem," the message said.

The King received at the Royal Palace on Friday Colonel Naim Khatib and a delegation representing the Al Badr Battalion of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) based in Jordan, the Jordanian news agency, Petra, said. Petra quoted Col. Khatib, commander of the battalion, as telling the King that "we believe in your sincere efforts... and urge all Arab brothers to work with you in helping the people of occupied Palestine."

The speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, sent a cable of support to the King on Thursday. The cable said the King's address to the nation "gave a subjective and credible evaluation of the dangers surrounding us and made us perceive the Jordanian stance on the dimensions of the Palestinian problem and the threats that the problem poses, in its past, present and future," Petra quoted the cable as saying.

A number of Upper House members also sent similar cables to the King. Lower House members Ismail Hijazi, Mufid Al Mubaslat, Fahseen Al Faris, Khaled Al Fayyad, Yacoub Al Ghosh, Nicola Akel, Maher Ished, Mufleh Al Oudallah, Nazih Ammarin and Daoud Daoud also sent cables to the King, renewing their firm support of the King and his policies.

The Lower House is expected to hold an urgent session on Saturday to discuss the King's address to the nation. Informed sources said the House was expected to debate the address and the various points contained in it. The sources expected the House to endorse the address and send a message of support to the King. House members held consultations on Friday evening. The consultations were attended by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Judeh.

Official and popular delegations representing municipal councils, tribes and associations visited their respective governorate and district headquarters and voiced support for the King. Delegations from the Palestinian refugee camps around Amman, representatives of charitable societies and women federations and heads of municipal councils visited Amman Municipal headquarters and expressed their pride in and support for the King.

Amman Governor Ali Al Bashir received these delegations and representatives and heard their pledge of support, Petra said. They said "they would remain to be the soldiers and messengers of the Great Arab Revolt and its principles which were passed on to the King by his great grandfather," Petra reported.

These delegations also expressed their wish to have an audience with the King and Mr. Bashir promised them he would convey their request to the Royal Court, Petra said. The Royal Court also received messages and cables of support for the King from Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, General Union of Voluntary Societies President Abdullah Al Khatib, Water Authority President Muhammad Saeed Al Kellani, the presidents of the Jordanian chambers of commerce and industry and the Jordanian Contractors Society and the heads of trade unions in the sectors of transport, electricity, municipality, food industries, building, commerce, services, railways, tourism and air transport, Petra said.

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Cables of support also came from Zarqa Governorate, the Zarqa Municipal Council, the Zarqa Development Corporation and the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce. Various other popular and official organisations in Zarqa also sent similar messages to the Royal Court.

Citizens from Balqa Governorate and municipal council, welfare societies, women's federations, sports associations, heads of tribes and the Salt Development Corporation also sent messages of support to the Royal Court.

Residents of the Palestinian refugee camp in Beqaa also sent a similar cable of support. Messages of support also came from official and popular organisations and associations in Karak, Irbid, Madaba and various other outlying areas also sent messages of support to the Royal Court.

Dignitaries representing the West Bank municipalities and town also sent similar messages. Tribal leaders from both the East and West Banks also reaffirmed their support of the King in messages sent to the Royal Court.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad telephoned the King on Thursday. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, which reported the telephone call, did not give details.



His Majesty King Hussein with a delegation representing the Al Badr Battalion of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) which he received in audience on Friday (Petra photo)

## Deputies concerned over collapse of talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Seven Lower House of Parliament members representing West Bank constituencies on Friday voiced their concern over the collapse of talks between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and expressed fears that disagreements between both sides could be ironed out soon.

"History will record how the PLO wasted the chances of a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem and will carry the responsibility for not coordinating its moves with Jordan," Bethlehem Deputy Edward Khamis said.

The seven deputies made their comments to Jordan Television Friday. The Lower House is to hold an urgent session on Saturday to discuss His Majesty King Hussein's nation-wide speech on Wednesday in which he announced that the Kingdom was terminating joint political moves with the leadership of the PLO.

Hebron Deputy Wahid Al Jahbari said: "Our people received this decision with deep regret since they relied on and pinned so much hope on the Feb. 11 agreement" between Jordan and the PLO on coordinated political moves towards a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem.

Mr. Jahbari, who returned from the West Bank after a short visit on Friday, called on the PLO to "return their coordination with Jordan and to accept what His Majesty has presented as means to solve the Palestine problem."

"I hope that the misunderstandings between Jordan and the PLO would be solved soon," said Jerusalem Deputy Fouad Farraj. Mr. Farraj noted that Jordan has succeeded to a great extent in presenting the PLO and the Palestine cause to all international forums.

Hebron Deputy Ismail Hijazi said: "Losing momentum is not in favour of the Palestinians and their cause. The sooner we move, the better things will be."

## Israeli forces storm U.N.-policed village

Combined agency dispatches

KFAR DOUENINE, Lebanon — Tank-led Israeli forces shifted the thrust of a five-day-old sweep across South Lebanon into a U.N. zone patrolled by Ghanian soldiers on Friday, wounding a Ghanian soldier.

Beirut Radio and communications issued by the Shiite Amal militia said 20 Israeli soldiers were killed in a battle in the village of Sraffa, eight kilometres north of Kfar Douenine, on Thursday. The Israeli army admitted the death of only one soldier in the four-hour Sraffa battle.

Independent security sources told Reuters about 1,500 Israeli troops had detained 130 Lebanese since they started scouring villages for two Israelis captured in Israel's self-declared "security zone" on Monday.

At least 13 Lebanese have been killed since the sweep began, Israeli and Lebanese security sources say. Another 22 Lebanese have been wounded.

In Beirut, Al A'had (Pledge), a weekly magazine run by the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) militia, carried a photograph of what it said were the two Israeli captives.

It showed two men, one with a bandaged head, lying with drips in their arms in a room plastered with posters of Shiite figures such as Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The caption said the picture had been taken "before the execution of one of the prisoners."

On Wednesday night, the Hizbollah-led "Islamic Resistance" announced it had killed one of the Israelis because Israel had ignored an ultimatum to withdraw its forces from the south.

Major-General Ori Orr, who is directing the Israeli operation, was quoted by Israeli Radio as saying the search would continue as

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## U.S.: PLO failed to seize chance

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has acknowledged that a year-long Middle East peace effort on which it had pinned great hopes foundered because of deep differences between Washington and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

One day after His Majesty King Hussein announced that Jordan was terminating joint political moves with the leadership of the PLO, the U.S. State Department said the PLO had failed to seize the opportunity offered and that all parties would now have to find another way to move towards a negotiated peace.

King Hussein, removing the wraps from delicate negotiations in which Jordan had played the middle man between Washington and the PLO, made clear that the PLO leadership was to be blamed for the breakdown.

The State Department agreed with the King that the nub of the problem had been PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's inability to accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The two resolutions, prescribe withdrawal of Israelis from territories occupied in 1967 in exchange for peace and are regarded by the United States as the underpinning of the peace process.

Had the PLO agreed to these terms the United States was ready to accept the PLO's presence at an international conference on the Middle East and to contact the Soviet Union with a view to getting such a conference under way.

That offer represented a concession by Washington although its basic position on what the PLO must do to be included in the peace process remained unchanged.

The latest peace effort grew out of the Feb. 11, 1985, accord between Jordan and the PLO.

U.S. officials were intrigued by the move and then hopeful that it might at last bring the sputtering peace process to life.

When King Hussein said in Washington last May that the PLO accepted the U.N. resolutions, President Reagan set a goal of Arab-Israeli talks by the end of 1985.

But on Thursday State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters, "It's obvious that we have embarked on a period of reflection on the part of all parties."

His words appeared to presage indefinite stagnation in the search for peace.

"The PLO has now failed the King's test and history moves on," Redman said.

"The record is clear that the PLO leadership has failed to seize the opportunity offered it and all parties will now have to find another basis to move towards the undiminished imperative of a negotiated peace, including the resolution of the Palestinian problem."

Redman refused to go beyond his carefully worded remarks to say whether Washington believed there was still a possible role for the PLO in the Middle East peace process.

Redman emphasised the U.S. belief that neither Jordan nor Israel had abandoned their commitment to peace and said the United States would continue to work for direct negotiations between the two countries.

However, his forecast of a "period of reflection" appeared based

## Chinese pilot lands MiG in Seoul

SEOUL (Agencies) — A Chinese pilot landed a MiG-19 fighter near Seoul on Friday, setting off air raid sirens and a warning by South Korean authorities that the city was under imminent air attack.

Defence Ministry officials said the pilot, Chien Pao-Chung, 26, was being questioned but declined to say if he was seeking political asylum.

In Peking, the Chinese Foreign Ministry issued a statement calling on Seoul to quickly return the plane and pilot.

It said a Chinese military plane had lost contact with its base during training and had flown to South Korea.

South Korean jets intercepted the MiG and drove off two North Korean jets which were apparently pursuing it south.

It said the MiG had taken off from Shenyang in northeastern China but gave no details on its entrance into South Korean airspace.

Chien was attached to the fourth reconnaissance unit of the first Chinese Air Force Navigational Division, the ministry said.

It said South Korean planes escorted his plane to an undisclosed air base after he waved his wings to indicate it was defecting.

Witnesses told Reuters the MiG landed safely at an airbase near Suwon, just south of Seoul.

South Korea's state-run radio network KBS said the Chinese pilot had defected.

In its appeal for the quick return of the plane and pilot, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said:

"We hope that the South Korean side will provide assistance in returning the plane and the pilot to China at an early date."

Chinese fliers previously have sought political asylum in South Korea because of its geographical proximity to mainland China. The two countries have no diplomatic relations.

The last such defection took place last August when a Chinese navy light bomber crash-landed south of Seoul with three men aboard. Two were rescued safely but a third crew member was killed on landing.

The government later returned one of the two survivors and the body of the dead man to China, while it allowed the other survivor, the pilot of the aircraft, to leave for Taiwan.

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The last such defection took place last August when a Chinese navy light



# Soviet analyst calls Gulf war senseless, absurd

*Bovin says Iran's position is irrational*

MOSCOW (R) — Alexander Bovin, analyst for the Soviet government daily Izvestia, told a news conference on Friday the five-year-old Iran-Iraq conflict was senseless and absurd, but no end to it was in sight.

The Kremlin, which is Iraq's main arms supplier, proclaims neutrality and recently made a fresh attempt to improve its relations with the fundamentalist Muslim government in Tehran.

Mr. Bovin, appearing at a Foreign Ministry conference alongside senior government and Communist Party officials, said the element of irrationality in the war was too high for him to suggest a solution.

"Above all there is the irrational position of Tehran, which stubbornly declares that the war will not end while the current political leadership in Baghdad remains," he said. "That approach seems to me unconstructive and irrational."

His remarks came four days after Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz visited Moscow for talks on the war. The Soviet News Agency TASS said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told him Moscow wanted an early end

to the fighting and a negotiated settlement.

Western diplomats in Moscow have noticed signs of an improvement in Soviet-Iranian relations, following a visit to Tehran earlier this month by a Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Georgy Kornienko.

Subsequently the powerful Iranian parliamentary speaker, Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, said he had noted signs of Soviet flexibility over the war.

Mr. Bovin reiterated the view he expressed in Izvestia on Feb. 15 that the conflict helped neither Iraq nor Iran.

"If it helps anyone, then it helps above all the enemies of Arab unity... those forces which wish to maintain pressure on the region," he said.

This is one of the most senseless wars of the 20th century," he declared. "From the humanistic point of view there is little sense in any war, but in this case

the senselessness and absurdity are particularly apparent."

TASS, which in common with the rest of the Soviet state media normally reports both sides' versions of the fighting briefly and without comment, Friday gave more prominence to Iraq.

A TASS correspondent in Basra quoted Iraqi commanders as rejecting Tehran's reports that Iranian troops had captured an island in the disputed Shatt Al Arab waterway.

Meanwhile Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, winding up a controversial visit to Britain, said Thursday he saw little hope of an early end to the Iran-Iraq war.

He told a news conference that both countries were still far apart after five and a half years of Gulf conflict.

"I see little hope of peace in the coming months," said Mr. Ozal, who has visited Iran twice and Iraq once since he was elected to head a Turkish civilian government in 1983.

Turkey is a major trading partner with both of its warring neighbours and has played a part in trying to negotiate a peaceful settlement.

## Iraqis hold Shatt Al Arab island

UMM AL RASSAS ISLAND, Iraq (R) — A few decaying bodies scattered amid abandoned weapons await burial on this island in the Shatt Al Arab waterway which Iran tried to seize at the start of its 11-day-old thrust into southern Iraq.

"We destroyed all of them," Col. Jassim Ahmad Afan, named the "hero of Umm Al Rassas" by the army command, said Thursday of the Iranian force which crossed in boats.

Another officer said his men were still collecting bodies of Iraqis "to bury them decently according to Islamic rules."

Iran said early last week it had recaptured the island, just upriver from the Iranian city of Khorramshahr, but the Iraqi garrison commander, Col. Talib Turki Fathi, said Thursday the Iraqis never regained more than a few foot-

holds.

Reporters taken on a three-hour tour of the island saw machineguns, hand grenades, rifles and other light weapons left behind by the Iraqis, as well as dozens of boats nearby.

Col. Afan said the four-brigade-strong Iranian force was never able to advance from the southern tip of the island, which is nine kilometres long and 800 metres wide.

"We did not allow them to build any bridge," he said.

Khorramshahr and the Iranian bank of the waterway are only 250 metres away from the island, which is covered with bush and thousands of palm trees.

The Iraqis fell or burnt out trees to make it more difficult for the Iraqis to find hideouts.

Only two Iraqi army bridges connect the island with Umm Al

Jababi Island about 100 metres across the western side of the Shatt Al Arab dividing Iraq and Iran.

Col. Fathi, speaking at his Al Jababi headquarters, said Iraqi forces killed more than 500 Iraqis in an 18-hour battle on Jan. 10 and took captive hundreds of others, including a 10-year-old boy.

Some prisoners, he said, looked as if they were "hypothesised or in some kind of day dream."

He said the Iraqis were never able to move in reinforcements or heavy weapons as their boats were sunk.

The focus of the fighting has since shifted downstream to the region around the Iraqi port of Fao, 60 kilometres to the south east, which Iranian troops succeeded in overrunning and where they have dug in "amidst heavy Iraqi bombardment."

## U.N. body condemns Israel's human rights violations

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations Human Rights Commission has passed three resolutions condemning alleged Israeli human rights violations in occupied Arab territories and called for U.N. Security Council sanctions against the Jewish state.

The United States was alone in opposing the anti-Israeli resolutions which have been a regular feature of the commission's annual sessions.

U.S. delegate Patricia Byrne said that this year's resolutions were "even more tendentious than last year."

The commission assailed Israel's settlement policy in occupied territories, and alleged confiscation or demolition of property, mass arrests, ill-treatment of the Arab population and torture of prisoners.

One of the resolutions deplored "the negative vote and pro-Israeli position of a permanent member of the Security Council" which had blocked past attempts to sanction Israel.

Byrne criticised the phrase, a reference to the U.S., as "particularly offensive and highly inappropriate," constituting a direct interference in her country's foreign policy.

One resolution, the only one to see West European countries rally behind the U.S., blasted Israel's alleged breaches of the 1949 Geneva convention on the protection of civilians in time of war as "war crimes and an affront to humanity."

It condemned "all terrorist actions perpetrated against the Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied territories by Jewish gangs, led by Rabbi Meir Kahane, member of the Knesset (parliament), and the racist Rabbi Moshe Levinger."

The commission also deplored what it called Israeli expansionism in the region, including the "striking at Muslim and Christian religious and holy places and repeated attacks on Al Aqsa Mosque aimed at seizing and destroying it."

Washington has repeatedly said it was inappropriate for the commission to give the Council advice on sanctions but Thursday's motion was carried with 29 votes in favour, seven against and six abstentions. Gambia was absent during the vote.

The second resolution, passed by 32 for, one against and nine mainly West European abstentions, condemned deportations of Palestinians released from jail and urged Israel to grant all detained "Palestinian fighters" prisoner-of-war status.

Thirty-one delegates voted for the third resolution, accusing Israel of terrorising the Syrian population in the annexed northern Golan Heights. The vote was one against and 10 abstentions.

## New mayor is determined to give Nablus a facelift

NABLUS, West Bank (R) — Zafar Al Masri, new mayor of the occupied West Bank's largest city, says he is determined to give Nablus a facelift despite Arab criticism that his appointment is part of an Israeli ploy.

Mr. Masri was appointed by Israel's West Bank military government two months ago to replace an army officer who had ruled the city since Israel deposed Basam Shakaa and other East Bank mayors in 1982.

Mr. Masri, a businessman from a prominent local family, once served as Mr. Shakaa's deputy.

He realises that his appointment and the scope he has been given to improve the city are part of Israel's effort to enhance its image abroad in relation to the territory it has ruled since 1967.

"Israel wants to create a better image, that's why they have moved on the issue of Palestinian mayors. It is a tactical and cosmetic move for them, but we are getting much more than that by getting some authority," he told Reuters.

Since his appointment, Mr. Masri has recalled to work 700 city employees on strike since Mr. Shakaa's ouster. He has issued 200 building licences, planted trees in municipal parks and had the pot holes mended in this bustling city of 100,000 people.

Residents say that when the city centre was put under curfew last month after an Israeli policeman was killed, Mr. Masri intervened to assure residents had enough food. He also pressed the army to release suspects.

He said he hoped Palestinian mayors would soon be appointed in the West Bank towns of Ramallah and Al Bireh, where Israel recently has been considering candidates to replace army officers.

"Some Palestinians, including Mr. Shakaa, oppose Mr. Masri's appointment. They say it helps Israeli plans to impose limited self-rule rather than the full independence they seek."

"We are under occupation. It is the Israeli military that is responsible for what does or does not happen here," said Saad Erakat, a spokesman at Nablus' An Najah University. "Palestinians should not be used to carry out its policies," he said.

"I don't want peace in bits and pieces — a mayor here or permission to run a health institution there. The essence here is our lack of civil and human rights," said Mr. Erakat.

Mr. Masri, like most Palestinians, opposes Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' plan to impose self-rule unilaterally on the area now that Middle East peace talks seem deadlocked.

"We are disappointed that there is a deadlock. But I am not in favour of a peace that bypasses any one of the parties involved — the PLO, Jordan or Syria," he said.

He said he accepted the job not as a political move linked with the peace process but because maintenance of the sprawling city of yellow stone houses had badly deteriorated and he believed most residents wanted improvements.

He has plans for a new school, public library and industrial area and aims to extend the city's water network with Arab funding.

"There has been a big change psychologically for the better, the atmosphere is different," said political scientist Mohammad Shadid, who teaches at An Najah.

"You can see it in the municipal workers in the streets checking up to see what needs to be done, in the road repairs underway," he said.

## France expels killers of PLO officials

PARIS (Agencies) — Two Palestinians convicted of killing PLO Paris Representative Ezdine El-Kalaf and an assistant on Aug. 3, 1978, have been released from jail after serving half their terms and expelled from France, French sources said Friday.

The sources, who declined to be named, said the men were sent to an unidentified country of their choice.

French media were puzzled by the release. But the sources stressed there was no connection with either the series of bomb attacks in Paris recently, which was to support demands for release of other Middle East prisoners in France, or the negotiations for the release of four French hostages in Lebanon.

Officials of the French presidency, prime minister's office, and ministries of justice and interior refused all comment on the case.

But sources said the release was the result of long and discreet negotiations since 1982, after the terrorist attack on a Jewish restaurant in Paris in which six people were killed and 22 wounded.

The sources said the objective was to convince the Abu Nidal group to stop using French territory for its operations against Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli or Jewish targets.

French media reported that specialists believe the Abu Nidal group has not committed any attacks in France since then.

Assad Kayed and Husni Hatem were arrested after attacking Mr. Kalaf and an aide, Adnan Hammad, with grenades and firearms in the Paris offices of the Arab League, which also housed the PLO offices.

Mr. Kalaf was shot 16 times and Mr. Hammad had both legs blown off by a grenade.

Members of Abu Nidal's splinter group opposed to Mr. Arafat, were sentenced to 15 years' jail on March 7, 1980, by a Paris court. Hatem told the court the action was "a present to my country."

Having served half that time in total detention since their arrests, they were eligible for release from the Muret Prison near Toulouse in southern France.

Their lawyer, Marie-Christine Etelin, had applied for parole for them first in 1984.

The French officials said Justice Minister Robert Badinter signed their release this week before being named president of the constitutional council.

They said it was apparently the result of "a political decision at a higher level," but gave no further details, and there was no official comment.

Meanwhile French police have removed from jail two Middle Eastern prisoners serving life sentences for political violence and are planning to swap them for French hostages held in Lebanon, French radio said Thursday.

The national network France-Inter said two of a five-man com-

mando jailed for a 1980 assassination attempt on an exiled Iranian leader had been transferred to a secret location in preparation for an exchange with some or all of four French hostages seized by gunmen in Beirut last year.

Officials at both the Interior and External Relations Ministries declined comment on the report. Paris authorities would not confirm the transfer had taken place.

The daily newspaper Le Figaro, quoting its own sources, said two men of Syrian or Lebanese origin were taken from a southern French prison 48 hours after a spate of bombings hit the French capital two weeks ago.

A group calling itself the "Committee of Solidarity With Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners" claimed responsibility for the attacks, which injured 21 people, and demanded the release of two Arabs and an Armenian jailed in France.

One of the men listed by the group was Anis Nacache, head of the five-man commando sentenced to life imprisonment for the attempted murder of former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar, in which a French policeman was killed.

Commun holding French diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann and Arabist researcher Michel Seurat in Lebanon also have demanded the release of Arab prisoners in France.

## W. Beirut paralysed by strike; snipers hit 2

BEIRUT (AP) — Snipers wounded two civilians on Beirut's dividing Green Line Friday as the mainly Muslim west side was paralysed by a general strike to protest the assassination of a Communist Party leader.

Police closed the Kassasah-Vassaleh crossing on the Green Line when Falangist and opposition militiamen began their sniping duel.

Police said the two wounded civilians were Christians and were rushed to hospital in east Beirut.

A cease-fire held through the night in Lebanon's central mountains following day-long tank battles and artillery duels Thursday between troops loyal to Pres-

ident Amin Gemayel and Syrian-backed militias seeking to oust him.

Police said the final casualty toll of Thursday's fighting above Mr. Gemayel's hometown of Bikfaya in the Falangist heartland north east of Beirut was seven killed and 33 wounded.

Among the dead were five civilians killed by random shelling that spilled over from the battles around Bikfaya, 16 kilometres from the Lebanese capital, police reported. The other two were combatants.

Dany Chamoun, a Maronite Catholic politician who heads the

National Liberal Party founded by his father, ex-President Camille Chamoun, accused the Syrian army of deliberately shelling Falangist areas Thursday.

Schools, shops, restaurants, cinemas, cafes, banks and businesses were closed throughout west Beirut Friday by the strike to protest the assassination of Communist Party Central Committee member Khalil Naouss Thursday.

The strike was called by the Communists and the major Syrian-backed Druze and Shi'ite Muslim militias that rule west Beirut.

## Crowe stresses importance of U.S. arms sales to Jordan

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Admiral William J. Crowe, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, has stressed the importance of the U.S. security assistance programme in Jordan.

Pointing out that Jordan has exhibited "considerable courage" in supporting the Middle East peace process, Adm. Crowe said, "nothing can relieve him of the responsibility for keeping his defences strong."

Noting that new arms sales for Jordan are "on hold" in Congress, Adm. Crowe told the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee that "we ignore (the) reality" that Jordan must be able to defend itself "at the peril of the peace process."

Following is part of Adm. Crowe's testimony referring to Jordan:

"I am aware that new sales for Jordan are 'on hold.' But I still want to state for the record my impression of that country's importance. Like every other nation in the Middle East, Jordan must concern itself not only with its territorial integrity but also the security of its capital city of Amman: how fast and with what warning enemy aircraft could reach the capital; what sort of defence stands in the way of a surprise attack; and how an attack would affect the functions of government. It is a classical military problem which the armed forces of Jordan must solve. The Kingdom also is in a political bind. From the United States, they hear that they must have 'peace before arms.' From other quarters, they hear that Jordan pursues peace with Israel only at its own peril. Overall, King Hussein has exhibited considerable courage supporting the peace process as he has threatened the shoals of Middle Eastern politics. But nothing can relieve him of the responsibility for keeping his defences strong. We ignore that reality at the peril of the peace process."

## TV & RADIO

<b>JORDAN TELEVISION</b>		21:00	News Summary
Tel. 733111-19		21:05	25 Years of Rock
		21:15	News Summary
		21:20	The Blues
		21:25	Country Music
		21:30	News Headlines
		21:40	Close down
<b>MAIN CHANNEL</b>			
16:00	16:00	Koranic	
16:30	16:30	Children programmes	
17:00	17:00	Play It Safe	
18:10	18:10	Different Strokes	
18:35	18:35	Arabic Series	
19:30	19:30	News Feature	
20:00	20:00	News in Arabic	
20:35	20:35	Arabic Series	
21:25	21:25	Local programmes	
22:30	22:30	Arabic Series: The Road to Jerusalem	
23:10	23:10	Series continued	
<b>FOREIGN CHANNEL</b>			
18:00	18:00	French Programme: Ecole des Elus	
18:30	18:30	Les animaux du Monde	
19:00	19:00	News in French	
19:15	19:15	Bergeret et Elie	
19:30	19:30	News in Hebrew	
20:00	20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	20:30	Mind Your Language	
21:00	21:00	Starting the Actors	
21:30	21:30	Saturday Variety Show	
22:00	22:00	News in English	
22:30	22:30	Feature film: The Birds	
<b>RADIO JORDAN</b>			
8.5 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM			
partly on 99.0 MHz. SW			
Tel. 77111-19			
07:00	07:00	Light Music	
07:30	07:30	Newsweek	
08:00	08:00	Morning Show	
10:00	10:00	News Summary	
10:05	10:05	Pop Session	
10:30	10:30	News Summary	
11:00	11:00	Pop Session contd.	
11:30	11:30	News Summary	
11:35	11:35	Pop Session contd.	
14:00	14:00	News Bulletin	
14:10	14:10	Jordan Weekly	
14:30	14:30	Musical	
15:00	15:00	Concert Hour	
16:00	16:00	News Summary	
16:05	16:05	Instrumentals	
16:30	16:30	Old Favourites	
17:00	17:00	Talking Points	
17:30	17:30	Animal Vegetable Mineral	
18:00	18:00	News Summary	
18:05	18:05	Top Twenty	
19:00	19:00	News	
19:30	19:30	Date with a Star	
20:00	20:00	The 15th Century A.H.	
20:30	20:30	The Young Sound	

<b>BBC WORLD SERVICE</b>		21:00	News Summary
639, 720, 1.415 KHz.		21:05	25 Years of Rock
		21:15	News Summary
		21:20	The Blues
		21:25	Country Music
		21:30	News Headlines
		21:40	Close down
<b>06:00</b> Newsweek <b>06:30</b> That's Tral <b>06:45</b>			
<b>Financial News 6:55</b> Reflections <b>07:00</b>			
<b>World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30</b> About Britain <b>07:45</b>			
<b>The World Today 08:00</b> Newsweek <b>08:30</b>			
<b>World News 09:00</b> World News <b>09:30</b>			
<b>24 Hours: News Summary 09:45</b> <b>10:00</b> From the Weekends <b>10:30</b> About Britain <b>10:45</b>			
<b>World News 10:50</b> Reflections <b>10:55</b> <b>A Jolly Good Show 11:00</b> World News <b>11:09</b>			
<b>British Press Review 11:15</b> <b>The World Today 11:30</b> Financial News <b>11:40</b>			
<b>Look Ahead 11:45</b> <b>The Music Business 12:00</b> News Summary <b>12:15</b>			
<b>That's Tral 12:15</b> Letter from America <b>12:30</b>			
<b>Soundbite Politics 12:50</b> World News <b>12:59</b>			
<b>World News 13:00</b> About Britain <b>13:15</b> <b>World News 13:30</b> <b>World News 14:00</b>			
<b>World Newsweek 14:15</b> Anyday Goes <b>14:45</b>			
<b>Sports Round-up 15:00</b> World News <b>15:09</b>			
<b>Sports Round-up 15:20</b> <b>News Summary 15:30</b> <b>Network UK 15:45</b> <b>15:45</b> <b>Country Style 16:00</b> <b>News Summary 16:30</b>			
<b>Sunday Special 16:45</b> <b>World Newsweek 17:15</b> <b>Sunday Special 18:00</b> <b>World News 18:09</b>			
<b>Commentary 18:15</b> <b>Sunday Special 19:00</b> <b>News Summary: Sunday Special 19:45</b> <b>Sports Round-up 20:00</b>			
<b>Newsweek 20:15</b> <b>Play of the Week — A Midsummer Night's Dream 21:00</b>			
<b>For King and Country 22:00</b> <b>World News 22:10</b> <b>24 Hours: News Summary 22:30</b> <b>Jazz for the Ages 23:00</b>			
<b>In Holy Contemplation 23:15</b> <b>What's New 23:30</b> <b>People and Politics 24:00</b>			
<b>World News 00:05</b> <b>From our own Correspondents 00:20</b> <b>New Ideas 00:45</b>			
<b>Reflections 00:45</b> <b>Sports Round-up 01:00</b> <b>World News 01:09</b> <b>Commentary 01:15</b> <b>Letterbox 01:30</b> <b>Hitsville USA</b>			

<b>VOICE OF AMERICA</b>		21:00	News Summary
1260 Mw, 7200, 9565, 11740 1923 and 15210 KHz.		21:05	25 Years of Rock
		21:15	News Summary
		21:20	The Blues
		21:25	Country Music
		21:30	News Headlines
		21:40	Close down
<b>06:00</b> News <b>06:10</b> VOA Morning <b>06:30</b> News Summary <b>06:40</b> VOA Morning <b>07:00</b> News <b>07:10</b> Closing <b>07:30</b> News Summary <b>07:40</b> VOA Morning <b>08:00</b> News <b>08:10</b> VOA Morning <b>09:30</b> News Summary			

## WHAT'S GOING ON

# TODAY'S EVENTS

## EXHIBITIONS

- \* An art exhibition by Haman Agia at the Gallery of the Housing Bank complex (until March 6)
- \* An art exhibition by Yousef Badawi at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until Feb. 28).
- \* An exhibition of plastic arts at Yarmouk University (until Feb. 27)
- \* French exhibition entitled: "Le Moule En Bulle" at the French Cultural Centre (until Feb. 23)
- \* An art exhibition by Se'ad Nasseh at the Jordan National Gallery (until March 2).

## VIDEO

\* "La nouvelle vague" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

## CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 6610267  
American Centre . 644371  
American Cultural Library . 641320  
British Council . 6361478  
French Cultural Centre . 637009  
Goethe Institute . 641993  
Soviet Cultural Centre . 644203  
Spanish Cultural Centre . 630409  
Turkish Cultural Centre . 639777  
Haya Arts Centre . 665195  
Hassan Youth City . 6671816  
Y.W.C.A. . 641793  
Y.W.M.A. . 664251  
Amman Municipal Library . 637111  
University of Jordan Library . 843355

## MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.  
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabal Leiwedeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.  
Martyr's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.  
Popular Film of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

## CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Leiwedeh, 637440.  
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.  
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.  
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906.  
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.  
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.  
Armenian Apostolic Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Smeisani, 677534.  
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.  
Rabbi's Congregation (International, Interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 606974.

## PRAYER TIMES

6:45p	Fajr
06:12	Sunrise (Sunnah)
11:50	Dhuhr
15:30	'Asr
17:27	Maghrib

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

# QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

# MARITIME TRAFFIC

This information is supplied by Alia Information department of the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 51200, where it should always be verified.

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

- Cygnusace
- Al Ahram 2
- Tross Bank
- Proud Eagle
- Hual Traveller
- San Mated

## ARRIVALS

06:30	Cairo (MS)
07:30	London, Larnaca (BA)
08:45	Amman (RJ)
09:35	Kuwait (RJ)
09:35	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:45	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:55	Dhahran (RJ)
10:00	Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
12:10	Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GFA)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
14:30	Larnaca (RJ)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:30	Cairo (RJ)
18:05	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
18:30	Rome, Damascus (AF)
19:30	Tripoli (RJ)
19:35	Rome, Damascus (RJ)
20:55	Frankfurt, Damascus (RJ)
01:30	Baghdad (RJ)

Amn Kwar and Seas Company. Tel: 623234-9 at your service.

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair. Light and variable winds will become northeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	6/12
Aqaba	11/27
Deserts	5/22
Jordan Valley	12/23

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 28. Humidity readings: Amman 31 per cent. Aqaba 19 per cent.

## DEPARTURES

06:20	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:30	Damascus, Agaba (RJ)
06:45	Damascus, Athens (RJ)
07:15	Cairo (MS)
09:10	Larnaca, London (BA)
10:30	Tripoli (RJ)
11:30	Brussels, Paris (RJ)
12:00	Cairo (RJ)
12:15	Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30	Rome, Madrid (RJ)
13:40	Larnaca (RJ)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
13:30	Bahrain (GF)
13:30	Kuwait (KU)
18:20	Kuwait (RJ)
19:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:15	Cairo (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
21:30	Baghdad (AJ)
21:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:30	

## MONEY EXCHANGE

Thursday rates	
Local sell/buy rates in fits	
Bahraini dinar	960 968
Dutch guilder	135.6/ 137.6
Egyptian guinea	2000 206
French franc	49.9 50.6
Iraqi dinar	344/ 352
Japanese yen (for 100)	196.4/ 199.3
Kuwaiti dinar	1267/ 1274
Libanese lira	24 16
Omani rial	940 950
Qatari rial	99 101
Saudi riyal	98 101
Swedish crown	42/ 48.8
Swiss franc	184.5/ 187.8
Syrian lira	23 25
UAE dirham	98 100
U.K. sterling pound	513/ 521.7
U.S. dollar	333.2 357.1



## Nsour returns from S. Arabia

AMMAN (Petra) — Planning Minister Abdullah Al Nsour returned home after a several day official visit to Saudi Arabia during which he met with Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, the Saudi defence and aviation minister and second deputy prime minister, and a number of Saudi officials.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Dr. Nsour said he and Minister of Finance and National Economy Sheikh Muhammad Al Khalil, who is also president of the Saudi Fund for Development, discussed bilateral relations and the possibility of the fund financing some development projects included in the five-year development plan (1986-1990).

He added that he held detailed discussions with the Saudi fund regarding projects in the last five year development plan which had been assisted by the fund.

Dr. Nsour continued that he met with his Saudi counterpart Hisham Nazer and discussed bilateral cooperation and coordination in the fields of planning and development. He also looked at the Saudi development plan, currently being prepared by Saudi Planning Ministry.

The Saudi Fund for Development has contributed SR. 600 million towards financing a number of development projects included in the last five year development plan.

## Antiquities director, envoy visit Jordan Valley excavation sites

DEIR ALA (Petra) — French Ambassador to Jordan Patrick Leterrier and director of the Department of Antiquities, Dr. Adnan Al Hadidi, Thursday made an inspection visit to areas in the northern Jordan Valley where a joint Jordanian-French archaeological team has been conducting excavations.

According to Dr. Zeidan Kafafi from Yarmouk University, which is involved in the diggings, several artefacts have been unearthed in the region of Abu Hamid in the Jordan Valley since the excavations started on January 10, 1986. He said all indications point to the fact that the area was inhabited by agricultural communities towards the end of the Fifth Century B.C.

The current excavations revealed

walls of homes made of clay in addition to large collections of implements such as chisels, shovels, sickles and other agricultural tools, believed to have been used during that era. Dr. Kafafi pointed out. He said that there are indications that the settlers used to keep goats, sheep and even fowls and that they depended more on agriculture than hunting for a living.

The ambassador and Dr. Hadidi later made a tour of the archaeological sites at Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley and inspected various tools and remains of animals discovered so far. The French ambassador presented Yarmouk University with a collection of books on anthropology, history and archaeology.



KING MEETS S. YEMENI ENVOY: His Majesty King Hussein is briefed on the situation in South Yemen by a special envoy from South Yemeni President Haidur Abu Bakr Al Attas. The envoy, Mr. Ahmad Salam who is also minister of justice (left), was received in audience by the King at the Royal Court on Thursday afternoon. The audience was in the presence of Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi and Justice Minister Riyadh Al Shaka'a. Later Mr. Salam left for Aden and said he and the King discussed bilateral relations. He was seen off by Mr. Shaka'a and a number of Jordanian officials (Petra photo)

## Jordan, Syria take steps to promote land, sea and air transport cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Syria have taken further measures to promote land, rail, air and maritime transport between them and both countries have pledged to carry out projects aimed at serving the cause of inter Arab economic integration.

Ministers of Transport Farhi Obeid and Yusuf Al Ahmad, acting on behalf of Jordan and Syria, signed minutes of meetings that were held over the past week during the Syrian minister's visit to Jordan.

The minutes provide for both countries to make available JD 3 million, shared equally between them, for expanding the fleet of the Jordanian-Syrian maritime company. They also exempt the Jordanian Syrian Land Transport Company and the joint maritime company from customs duties in Jordan and Syria for another 10 years.

The minutes also provide for following up talks between civil aviation authorities in both countries with the aim of developing

air transport cooperation through reviving old agreements in this respect.

The two sides agreed to renew contacts with Saudi Arabia for the purpose of developing the Hijaz Railway line that links Jordan with Syria and Saudi Arabia. Both Jordan and Syria have expressed desire to go ahead with laying a new wide gauge railway line to replace sections of the narrow gauge line which are now being used in Syria and Jordan.

Both sides agreed to convene technical committee meetings in Damascus and Amman to organize transport and transit operations and to introduce measures for further facilitating travel between Jordan and Syria.

After the signing ceremony, Mr. Obeid made a brief speech in which he said that bilateral agreements on transport are bound to offer immense service to both countries and safeguard their national interests. He lauded the efforts being made by members of both delegations during the meetings.

which, he said, were held in a brotherly atmosphere. The Syrian minister expressed appreciation to the Jordanian government for providing all essential elements for a successful outcome of the meetings.

The two ministers had earlier co-chaired general assembly meetings of the Jordanian Syrian Land Transport Company and the Jordanian Syrian Maritime Company. According to both ministers, the outcome of the meetings demonstrated the two countries' determination to promote all forms of transport between them.

Before winding up his visit to Jordan, the Syrian minister and his delegation were accompanied by Mr. Obeid on a visit to Aqaba where they inspected port facilities and they later toured archaeological and tourist sites. The Syrian delegation left for home by land and were seen at the border post of Ramtha by Mr. Obeid and other officials.

## Haj Hassan outlines reasons for labour regulations to cloth merchants, retailers

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In an effort to combat rising unemployment in the local labour force, the Ministry of Labour is being very strict in enforcing labour regulations for foreigners who compete for jobs with Jordanians, according to Minister of Labour Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

The minister was speaking during a meeting with economists and institutions to brief them on Jordan's labour market as well as the reasons which prompted the ministry to tighten labour rules and impose strict regulations on foreign labourers.

During a meeting on Thursday with cloth merchants and shopkeepers the minister said that the recent measures are directed at workers who do not have permits, foreign workers in posts for which their permit is not valid and at those who fill vacancies that could be occupied by Jordanians.

He added that such a state of affairs is "unacceptable" to the community. "To neglect the problem would aggravate unemployment with its negative security, economic and social impacts," Mr. Haj Hassan said.

He called on cloth merchants and shopkeepers to work with the ministry so that its efforts would be successful.

Statistics show unemployment to be 30,000, or six per cent of the workforce. Of this number 14,000 are under-graduates from community colleges and some 4,000 with twelfth certificates, he noted.

"While I ask you to cooperate with the ministry in combating unemployment, I also request job seekers to accept vacant jobs and to forsake the tendency to refuse to work in certain fields," the minister said.

He said combating unemployment is the responsibility of all parties including labourers, employers and the government. The minister explained that the ministry will keep the door open for foreign manpower only in the fields of agriculture, construction and services whilst other posts which could be occupied by Jordanians will be closed to foreigners.

Mr. Haj Hassan said there were 101,484 foreign workers reg-

istered last year, including 71,400 Egyptians, and about 70,000 illegally-employed workers who must now apply for work permits.

"We are not against foreign labour, we just want to regulate the labour market," he said. Former Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat said recently that unemployment had become "an aggravating problem, posing social, economic and political dangers."

Jordan's limited social security system does not provide for unemployment benefits. The labour minister said about 15,000 school leavers and university graduates were entering the labour market each year. Jordan brought in foreign workers in the mid-70s to replace Jordanians who sought better-paid jobs in the Gulf. But the foreign workforce, which includes Turks, Indians, Pakistanis, South Koreans and Filipinos, has dwindled in the past few years, with the number of registered workers last year down by 34 per cent from 1984. The labour federation has demanded fixed minimum wages to ensure Jordanians do not lose jobs to lesser paid foreigners.

## Engineers cast their votes to elect new council, president

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Hundreds of engineers packed the Professional Associations' Complex Friday as they cast their votes to elect a new president and eight council members for the Jordanian Engineers Association. Over 2,680 engineers turned up at the polls and a slightly higher number is expected to be logged Saturday, the second and final day of the elections.

The majority of engineers casting their votes were of the opinion that it is very hard to predict the winner of the association's president seat. However, they all agreed that none of the three main blocs running in the elections will be able to win the majority of the eight council seats.

"It is no doubt a close race," one engineer said when asked about the chances of a candidate he was about to vote for. "If anybody says he knows the winner, he is definitely mistaken."

Sameer Abdallat, a civil engineer, said that this year, young engineers will have a lot of impact on the result of these elections. "If they decide and make up their minds about the candidate they want to support, there is no doubt this candidate will win. They (young engineers) make up the bulk of voters," he explained.

Mr. Abdallat, 28, said that young engineers "want to see new and young faces in the association." He believes that younger engineers "are more capable of understanding the problems of this age and are more knowledgeable about methods to handle these problems."

Although he agreed that the three candidates running for the seat of president and others in their respective blocs do not differ very much in their election programme, Mr. Abdallat said: "They may not differ on acknowledging the problems we have, but they sure differ on the approach to solve these problems."

Mr. Abdallat voted for Dr. Usama Anani, a candidate who is said to be backed by the former association president Laith Shbeilat, who lost the 1984 association elections to Mr. Ibrahim Abu Ayyash who is running for another term as president.

Mr. Abu Ayyash, attending the voting process expressed disappointment at the small turnout but said he was not surprised. There are about 16,000 engineers in Jordan. Among the major problems facing engineers in the Kingdom are unemployment, economic recession, competition from foreign offices and lack of efficient coordination between the association and the network of engineers in various parts in the Kingdom.

Most engineers predicted the votes to be dissipated among candidates belonging to all three blocs: the Professional List, the Independent Professional Action List, and the Professional Unity List. "Such a thing does not happen very often," according to Mohammed Jawad, a 32-year old chemical engineer. He believes that it is "much more healthy to have such a variety of engineers running for the elections. It leaves us with more choice."

Lamia Hinnawi, a young civil engineer, said that unlike elections in other parts of the world, "here people are very civilised about it." She explained that rival candidates were "chatting and

making jokes against each others. This is a very good sign," she said. "It indicates that whoever wins, cooperation within the association will continue."

Another female engineer who asked not to be identified told the Jordan Times that she will not vote for any of the candidates running for the president's seat. "I will not accept to vote for any of them. They are all bad," she said. "I only voted for the other seats."

Walid Nasser, who voted for Mr. Abu Ayyash, told the Jordan Times that he believes that "one should vote for someone he knows is good. Why take chances on somebody you don't know?" He praised efforts by Mr. Abu Ayyash to create new jobs for unemployed engineers though he admitted that "it is too big a problem for anybody to handle."

Several engineers said that no matter who is elected in these elections, "there is a limit to what any of them can do within the prevailing situation." They pointed out the economic recession which hit the region following the oil boom of the late seventies and that very little can be done when everybody — and not only engineers — are suffering economically. "We are only a part of society and we suffer when it suffers, and we rejoice when it prospers," said Iqbal Qumhawi, an architect.

The number of unemployed engineers is expected to rise to 4,000 by the end of this year if the current economic trend continues. About 2,500 Jordanians are estimated to be studying engineering in Jordan and abroad.

Mr. Qumhawi pointed out what he calls "the masked unemployment." He explained that many engineers who either have their offices or employed by offices "are not really doing anything. With the exception of few sectors, engineers are having trouble finding projects in which to work."

## Yugoslavs, Health Ministry officials hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Ministry of Health in Yugoslavia has expressed their readiness to offer training to Jordanian specialists and said Yugoslavia would also place its expertise in the treatment of diabetes at the Jordanian Ministry of Health's disposal.

The team's members were speaking at a meeting here on Thursday with Under Secretary of the Ministry of Health Sulaiman Subeishi who briefed them on his ministry's programmes for promoting the work of health centre and hospitals in Jordan.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the prospect of exchanging visits by specialists to look into the medical services in both countries and to try to benefit from developments. The meeting was attended by several Health Ministry officials.

The Yugoslav team arrived in Amman on Wednesday.

## Ministry studies ways to improve resources of councils

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Under Secretary Awad Al Tal has said that improving the financial conditions of municipal and village councils is a major aim of efforts being made by the ministry in administrative and legislative fields to increase the financial revenues and resources of these councils to help them provide services to local communities.

Speaking in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Tal added that the number of municipal councils in the East Bank has risen from 90 in 1978 to 152 at the end of last year with the number of village councils also rising from 237 to 340 during the same period. This expansion in local councils, he added, was accompanied by an increasing demand for services and an increase in the financial expenditures of these councils but without a corresponding increase in financing resources nor by updating laws and regulations in this field.

The financial problems of these councils and ways of improving their situation have been the core of a comprehensive and detailed study, Mr. Tal pointed out. This study came up with recommendations suggesting ways of modernising and developing the present channels for municipal councils' financial revenues and these recommendations have been referred in a memo to the Prime Ministry, Mr. Tal added.

JMA condemns attack on Iraq war. The JMA also called for an extraordinary meeting of the general secretariat of the Arab Doctors Union in Amman to take all necessary measures to support Iraq.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Egyptian premier receives copy of King's speech

CAIRO (J.T.) — Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt Hussein Hammami Thursday presented a text of His Majesty King Hussein's speech to the nation, which was delivered on Wednesday, to Egyptian Prime Minister Ali Mubtadi. Later the ambassador met with Foreign Minister Ismat Abdul Majid to discuss bilateral relations and current Arab affairs.

## Senate to convene Sunday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament will hold an extraordinary session on Sunday under the chairmanship of House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi. The Lower House will meet Saturday in an extraordinary session.

## Jordan to attend economic council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the 40th session of the Arab economic and social council which will open on Tuesday in Tunisia at Arab economy ministers level. Ministry of Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammed Al Saqqaf will represent Jordan at these meetings.

## Canadian team continues tour

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the National Defence College in Canada Friday visited Petra in the course of a tour of archaeological sites in Jordan. The delegation, grouping 60 members from the staff and the students of the college, arrived in Amman on Thursday for a visit which will end on Tuesday, according to the Canadian embassy. The delegation will be received by several Jordanian officials and will make visits to a number of sites in the country. Upon their arrival in Jordan, the delegation members were met by senior army officers and Canadian Ambassador to Jordan Gary Harman.

## Friendship society holds celebration

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society Thursday held a celebration to mark the 68th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet army and naval fleet. Mr. Walid Khayyat, member of the administrative committee, paid tribute to the Soviet stand in support of Arab causes and Soviet efforts to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region. The celebration was attended by Mr. Bahjat Al Talhouini, president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, Mr. Alexander Zinchuk, Soviet ambassador to Jordan, and representatives of Socialist countries' missions accredited to Jordan.

## U.S. says PLO failed to seize opportunity for peace talks

(Continued from page 1)

on an expectation that the Middle East peace process was headed for indefinite stagnation.

Officials held out no expectation of any new American initiative, saying the ball was in the Arab court.

Redman confirmed to reporters that the United States had made what one official called a significant modification in its position during the convoluted exchanges in recent weeks, as spelled out in detail by the King on Wednesday.

This was an agreement to accept the fact that an invitation would be extended to the PLO to attend an international conference providing it met three conditions.

They were acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338, readiness to negotiate with Israel and renunciation of terrorism.

As the peace effort reached stalemate, the State Department sought publicly to ease Palestinian concerns by stating that there should be no confusion between Resolution 242 and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

"They deal with different issues and are in fact complementary," the department said.

Washington is on record as recognising the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. But King Hus-

sein said on Wednesday that the PLO had demanded U.S. agreement to rights of "self-determination," seen as a phrase denoting a Palestinian state, unacceptable to the United States and Israel.

Britain expressed regret over the collapse of the joint initiative by Jordan and the PLO.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government "regretted that an important phase in the Middle East peace process appeared to have come to an end."

The government had not yet fully studied King Hussein's "clearly important" speech announcing the failure of PLO-Jordanian talks, the spokesman said, recalling that Britain had consistently supported the King's efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank voiced disappointment Thursday over the collapse of Jordan-PLO talks.

"We are very disappointed because we banked a lot on seeking peace through the talks," said Hanna Siniora, editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper Al Fajr.

The King's three-and-a-half hour speech was broadcast on Jordan Television, which can be seen in Israel and the West Bank.

"There cannot have been a single Palestinian in the occupied territories who was not glued in front of his set last night," one West Bank resident said.

Many Palestinians said they agreed with Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij's statement that King Hussein's visible emotion "went straight to the hearts and minds of the people of the West Bank and Gaza Strip."

Israeli leaders said the breakdown was "inevitable." "I never believed anything good could come out of the negotiations with the PLO which is a stumbling block on the road to peace," said Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

A spokesman for hardline Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir called on Jordan and local Palestinians to bypass the PLO and negotiate directly with Israel.

The idea was dismissed out-of-hand by West Bank leaders. Mr. Freij and former Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natche suggested local notables should appeal to Jordan and the PLO to patch up their differences.

"Jewish settlements are going up everywhere on the West Bank and all we hear from our side are slogans," Mr. Freij said. "We must press the PLO and Jordan to get back together again before there is no Palestinian land left to get back."

Relief at the collapse of the alliance with Jordan was heard from supporters of left-wing factions within the PLO who have long expressed unease at Mr. Arafat's peace efforts.

One such militant said a "moment of truth" was at hand and local notables who tried to ingratiate themselves with both Jordan and the PLO would now have to choose camps.

Palestinian newspapers published in East Jerusalem responded according to their political leanings. The daily Al Quds said: "We were shocked. And what a shock. All the hopes we built on a joint position (between Jordan and the PLO) collapsed."

Echoing King Hussein's view that the PLO made unnecessary demands, it said: "The priority which must precede everything is to liberate the land so it can remain Arab and to ensure that its own people continue to live on it."

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak avoided any public reaction and telephoned King Hussein to seek clarification, Reuters said.

Cairo's semi-official Al-Gomhouria predicted Jordan and the PLO might try new approaches.

Mr. Arafat was quoted on Friday as reaffirming his adherence, to the Feb. 11 accord for coor-

dination on the Mideast peace process.

He told the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Shargh Al Awsat that the decision by Jordan to suspend the peace drive was a "surprise to us."

It was the PLO leader's first public comment on the Jordanian move.

Mr. Arafat said the King's move left the Mideast peace prospects "open to all kinds of eventualities."

He told the paper that the PLO "continues to adhere" to the Feb. 11 accord on joint action for peace in the Middle East.

"We are ready to resume the dialogue in the interest of all," Mr. Arafat said.

He told the paper that a detailed PLO reply to Jordan's decision would be delayed because of his own preoccupation with means of arresting the escalation in the Iran-Iraq hostilities.

The statement was made from Iraq, where Mr. Arafat and his top aides were reported by the PLO office in Baghdad to be in the process of studying Jordan's move.



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# Jerusalem: An unholy betrayal

By Godfrey Jansen

ONCE upon a time there was a distinguished British Jewish historian and Islamologist called Bernard Lewis teaching at Cambridge. He produced books of high quality. I will call him Lewis I. Now there is somebody of the same name, who might even be the same person, teaching at Princeton but who is a pro-Israeli, pro-Zionist publicist — Lewis II. Several years ago Lewis II's Zionist sympathies broke through the academic objectivity of Lewis I when, presumably as a British citizen, he testified on behalf of Israel before a U.S. congressional committee in Washington. But just how far Lewis II has wandered from the path of the scholarly rectitude and honesty of Lewis I was displayed in sad fashion when he lectured on the Palestine problem in its historical context at Tel Aviv university: his talk was proudly and repeatedly broadcast by Israel radio on 25 January and was recorded by this correspondent. He dealt with two themes, one long-term and the other contemporary.

The latter was tied in with the debate going on in the U.N. security council following violent incidents at the Haram Al Sharif in Jerusalem within which stand the mosque of Omar and the Al Aqsa Mosque. The incidents were deliberately provoked by extremist Likud members of the Knesset who took with them Jewish zealots who wish to demolish the present Islamic structures on the site and, after a gap of over 1900 years, rebuild the Jewish Temple thereon.

Accordingly, and in this controversial context, Lewis addressed himself to the question: is Jerusalem — because of the Haram Al Sharif — a holy city for Islam or is it not? He answered: "With typical Jewish evasiveness, I will give two different answers." And they came variously from Lewis I and Lewis II. Lewis I said: yes, Jerusalem was now considered a holy city by the Muslims, but Lewis II added that it was not always so and in fact its holiness had been debated by Muslims over a long period of time. Those Muslims who opposed Jerusalem's sanctity argued that those who favoured it were either guilty of a Judaising heresy or were rulers in Damascus who tried

to build up the importance of Jerusalem as a competitor to the holy cities of the Meccan period (surah (chapter) in the Quran (XVII, Verse 1) which says of Jerusalem: "Glorified by He who carried His servant by night from the sacred mosque (the Kaaba) to the remote mosque (Masjid al-Aqsa), the precinct of which we have blessed," a reference to one of the most important spiritual happenings in the life of Mohammed, his mystical night flight to Jerusalem from where he ascended to the presence of God. When in 637 A.D. five years after the death of Prophet Mohammed, Jerusalem was conquered by Omar bin Khattab, his first act was to seek out the rock from which Mohammed's ascension took place. After rejecting various sites, including the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Omar, crawling through a sewer, finally came to the rock described to him by Mohammed, over which Omar ordered a mosque to be built: 57 years later the building was completed and is the splendid octagonal structure known as the "Dome of the Rock" or the "Mosque of Omar." Till today the mosque remains as testimony to the sanctity accorded to the spot by the Prophet himself

and by one of his closest companions. However, contesting this, Lewis II, quoting the Chronicle of Tabbari written two centuries after the event, recounted how Omar came to the site of the rock with a converted Jew who, when he took off his sandals in respect, was told by Omar that it was not a Muslim sacred site, only Mecca and Medina being holy to Muslims. But Omar's acts and those of his successors belie Tabbari's story, as repeated by Lewis II.

Knowing all this, why should Lewis try and assert that Jerusalem was not intrinsically holy to Islam from the very origin of the faith? Because if he could "prove" that the Muslims had not really revered Jerusalem then it would not be so objectionable if the Muslims were now evicted from the Haram Al Sharif and it once again became the Temple Mount of the Jews. In connection with the Haram Al Sharif controversy, Foreign Minister Shamir has been saying that the holy cities of Islam are Mecca and Medina and not Jerusalem. It is saddening to see a scholar providing pseudo-

historical evidence to back the claims of an ex-terrorist politician. On the political plane, Lewis II repeated the hackneyed Israeli propagandist claims that the expulsion of the Palestinians had left them identified with "a newly imagined fiction of imperial policy," because there has been no such place as "Palestine" in history.

That a professor at Princeton should indulge in this sort of pro-Israeli propaganda reminds one, as does the scandal surrounding the former Israeli citizen, Nadav Safran, at Harvard, that the Zionist friends of Israel have an iron grip on Middle Eastern studies in American universities. So strong is the grip that Zionist organisations like B'nai B'rith have tried to exclude Arab and "uncommitted and objective scholars" from this academic field; they have often succeeded or at least sneered down as being "anti-Semitic." May one not say that an Islamologist like Lewis II in his Tel Aviv lecture was being anti-Islamic? — Middle East International, London.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

*Al Ra'i:* Rallying behind the leader

IN a true demonstration of their support of their King and allegiance to the Hashemite Throne the people of Jordan rallied to voice total backing for the King's national stand and his continued efforts to regain the Palestinian people's rights. Jordan's national commitment towards the Palestinian problem has been firm and consistent all the way through, and Jordan has been trying with all its might to expose Israel's ill-practices and seizure of Arab land in the occupied territory, enlisting international community's help to thwart such moves. Jordan has been convinced that the Palestine problem should be solved through coordination with the Arab World and with international help which can put an end to Israel's arrogance. The support displayed by the Jordanian family towards their leader manifests the people's total confidence in the King's endeavours and illustrates the cohesion of the Jordanian family and national unity in the face of dangers threatening the nation. This open speech and frank statements by the King will no doubt serve as an incentive for the Palestinians and the Arabs at large to try to undertake a united effort and open the way for joint action aimed at liberating the Arab land from Zionist occupation.

*Al Dustour:* Defending Palestine cause

THE cables of support received by the Royal Court from various sectors of the Jordanian people express appreciation for the King's endeavours towards re-establishing right and justice. The cables voice the people's gratitude for the King's effort for the sake of regaining the Palestinian people's rights and in handling issues and difficulties that impede the arrival at a final solution for the Middle East conflict. The King's speech contained a full analysis of the situation in our region, and the role that Jordan should play in support of the Palestinians. The no-peace, no-war situation, as the King pointed out, is bound to make us lose all opportunities for arriving at a just and durable solution, and this situation of course tends to help the Israelis to carry on with their plans in the occupied Arab lands. The Israelis, as the King reiterated, are trying by all means to swallow up the Arab land in Palestine, and the Arabs have not yet risen to the level of responsibility and have not been able to find proper means for stemming Israel's actions. King Hussein made it clear that Israel's primary aim is to seize all Arab lands and evict the Palestinians from their territory. Therefore what Jordan is concerned about is to help the Palestinians to remain in their land and continue to resist all plans for eviction. Jordan, despite the differences with the PLO will continue to serve the cause of the Palestinian people.

*Sawt Al Shuah:* Helping Palestinians

JORDAN has given priority to the land and the people of Palestine and has accordingly been trying to concert pan-Arab efforts to reach a solution that would end Israel's occupation of our Palestinian land. In his speech, King Hussein made it clear that the Arabs have to limit their political, economic and military strategies and help the Arab people of Palestine to remain in their territory. This strategy means countering the aims of Zionists who try to bring Jews from all over the world to plant them in Palestine. For the sake of helping the Palestinian people maintain their land and rights, all Arab efforts should be pooled and directed towards ending the occupation. The Israelis are trying with all their might to bring in Jews and to give them Arab land, and our purpose should be to thwart that effort by enabling the Palestinians to resist Zionist plots and adhere to their land. Jordan has been aiming to achieve that goal and will continue to do so.

Thursday's

*Al Ra'i:* Jordan's commitment

KING Hussein's speech was comprehensive and left no point or fact undiscussed, and he did so in order to place all the facts before the public. For Jordan, and as the King reiterated, the Palestine problem is the main concern because Jordan, from the very beginning was involved in all matters pertaining to the Palestinian people and lived through their tragedy in all stages. In his speech, the King presented all the details about the long and hard bargaining for the regaining of the rights of the Palestinian people in their land, and he also placed before the viewers all the facts about the minute negotiations and talks between Jordan and the PLO over the years. King Hussein aimed at presenting to the world a clear view of the situation and the present circumstances in which the Arab people under Israeli rule are living. The Jordanian people support the King's endeavours for regaining Palestinian people's rights and for liberating all Palestinian cities and holy places.

*Sawt Al Shuah:* New facts

As we heard the King's speech we were filled with more bitterness about the Arab situation and about the failure of the Arab countries to do anything in favour of the Palestinian people and their rights in their homeland. The King opened our eyes to new facts about the situation and about the real intentions of Israel and Zionism with regard to our land and our rights. But King Hussein also pledged to continue supporting the Palestinian people's struggle despite the differences with the PLO leadership. The PLO has fallen victim to its internal problems and ill administration and has not yet understood the nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Therefore, the PLO has not been able to deal with the situation with sufficient tactics and political manoeuvres. The PLO has therefore abandoned the national position and also left the Palestinian people under Israeli rule facing the Zionist actions alone, thus losing all credibility and consistency. Jordan cannot sacrifice its national commitment just for the sake of coordinating its policies with the PLO, and therefore and as the King

## Marcos faces domestic and diplomatic pressure

By Graham Lovell

MANILA — President Ferdinand Marcos, faced with mounting domestic pressure and diplomatic outrage, has warned the opposition he will crack down hard on if they go too far in protests against the February 7 Philippine election.

Some political and diplomatic analysts think Marcos might be ready to re-impose martial law. But most believe this would do more harm than good to his present image at home and abroad and anyway is unnecessary given his already sweeping powers.

Giving every impression that he is ready to be tough, Marcos told a meeting on Feb. 18 of ruling party and government leaders: "I will not do anything that violates the law and constitution (but) I will exercise to the limit the provisions of the law and the constitution to prevent turmoil."

The official Philippine news agency quoted him as saying that while he did not think the opposition would be able to challenge the government, he was apprehensive about the effect of civil disobedience campaign which the opposition said it might start.

He said he had "certain powers that can dismantle the machineries of civil disobedience" but he told the meeting to leave his foes room for reconciliation.

The 68-year-old president, whose re-election was marked by charges of fraud, violence and ballot-rigging and of millions of voters being effectively disenfranchised, should be sworn in next week for a fourth six-year term. But even that seems uncertain.

The presidential palace has not yet announced plans for the official inauguration. But if it goes according to schedule, it would be on February 25 — 10 days after parliament proclaimed him the winner over Corason Aquino.

Aquino, now also backed by left-wing extremists who had tried to organise an election boycott, has refused to accept defeat, claiming she was robbed of victory by fraud and intimidation.

She called on her supporters to hold regular protests and to blackball banks, businesses and newspapers linked to Marcos and his close associates — so-called "cronies". There is also talk of civil disobedience and other non-violent action.

The protests have not yet fully taken off although there have been rumours of runs on "Crony" banks targeted by Aquino. Street demonstrations have been relatively peaceful.

It also remains to be seen whether Filipinos would give up their favoured "San Mig" beer if they shun the San Miguel food and beverage giant, one of the companies Aquino named for boycott to the Philippines.

at a huge protest rally last Sunday.

"I think Cory (Aquino) is very alarmed about the prospect of violence and I suspect the boycott will get only a patchy response," one diplomat said. "But I think Marcos is very aware of his international image."

"If she had called on people to march somewhere, anywhere, after that (Sunday) rally, I am sure they would have gone along with her."

"If it got violent and there were a few cracked heads it would not have helped Marcos but it could have made things difficult for her too in keeping control of the situation."

He and other diplomats noted irony in the fact that Marcos probably now faces a greater threat from 33-year-old "Cory" than he had from her murdered husband Benigno Aquino.

The former senator was shot dead at Manila airport in August 1983 when he returned to the Philippines from voluntary exile in the United States to try to reorganise and lead the opposition in parliamentary elections the following year.

On the diplomatic front, two countries, Spain — the Philippines former colonial ruler — and West Germany, have recalled their ambassadors "for consultations."

The European Community issued a stiffly-worded statement and the Vatican threw its weight behind an unprecedented declaration by Philippine Roman Catholic bishops condemning election fraud and violence.

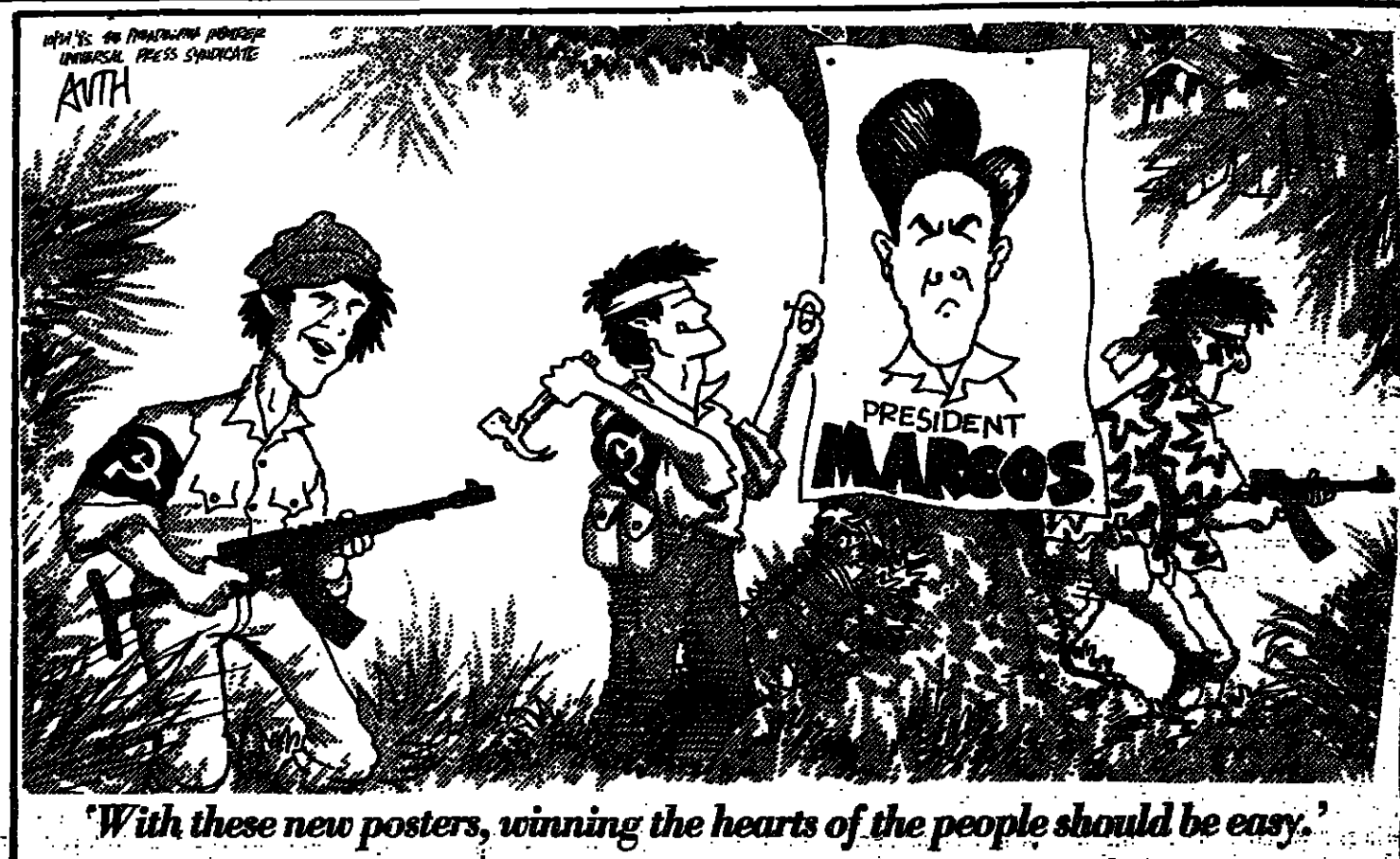
Singapore and Thailand, two of the Philippines' five partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have also expressed concern.

"I think the recall of ambassadors might snowball," another diplomat said. "But much more serious over the short and long term is American concern and whether he (Marcos) can contain the opposition without making things worse."

President Reagan, after dithering in his first comments on the election and managing to alarm both the Marcos and Aquino camps, called veteran diplomat Philip Habib out of retirement and sent him to Manila as a special envoy to assess the situation and try to determine what U.S. policy should now be.

Habib has already met Marcos, Aquino, government and business leaders and Cardinal Jaime Sin, the senior Roman Catholic prelate who has been among the most vocal in criticising the Marcos campaign behaviour.

Whatever Habib reports back to Washington, it will be against the background of growing congressional pressure on Reagan to impose sanctions of some form on Marcos, probably by reducing aid to the Philippines.



## Collective farmers hear Gorbachev message

By Helen Womack

POLTAVA, Soviet Union — Laughter rang out in the packed assembly hall of the "Victory of Communism" collective farm as a worker stood up to ask the visiting speaker what the party was doing about the shortage of brides in the area.

The dark-suited guest paused a moment for effect, then launched an answer with characteristic down-to-earth punch:

"Give me your ideas. What sort of small industries should we build

here to employ women? Think about this and you shall have your brides."

The speaker was Fedor Morgun, Communist Party first secretary in Poltava, a region of the Ukraine with a population of 1.7 million.

He had come to this collective farm of about 500 workers to tell them about the recent congress of the Ukrainian Communist Party, to prepare them for the national party congress later this month and to listen to their problems.

Although he is 63 and has held his post since 1973, he belongs

spiritually to a new generation of officials working with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to revive the economy and clean up public life. Self-criticism and efficiency are his watchwords.

Someone asked how his life would be affected by Gorbachev's amalgamation last autumn of five ministries concerned with food production into one farming authority, Gosagroprom.

Explaining that Gorbachev's intentions were to "untie your hands and raise your initiative," Morgun ushered onto the stage the regional official of Gos-

agroprom. "This man is your local god. I want you to know him personally," Morgun said. "Remember last year when the sugar beet stood out in the field for want of storage? Next time that happens, call him. He's your man, he's one of you."

Then turning to the official, he said: "You should be decisive, responsive and a good businessman."

The last question was about a method of ploughing without turning over the top soil which is used by Soviet farmers.

## New type of Soviet manager emerges in industrial town

By John Kampfner

CHEREPOVETS, Soviet Union — The new and old styles of Soviet management sit side by side in this grimy town in the heart of industrial Russia.

Valery Babkin, a young factory manager, sits confidently in his modern, computerised office — the kind of man Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev wants to see everywhere.

He is boss of the Ammofos chemical plant in Cherepovets, 350 km north of Moscow. From the outside it looks much like any other industrial enterprise.

But inside, its director is keen to point out the modern technology, which Gorbachev has stressed is vital to the country's economic rejuvenation.

Babkin is almost a show-piece example of the new generation of Soviet bosses.

Getting up from his computer screen, he greets a group of correspondents on a foreign ministry-organised trip with a confidence that suggests he is not unused to Westerners.

"Welcome. I'm Valery Babkin. I'm the boss round here. I'm 44, and a keen tennis player," he says with a smile, before embarking on a detailed description of the 12-year-old plant which produces mostly sulphuric acid and phosphates.

Clean-cut and young-looking Babkin lays great emphasis on what he calls the attention given to his workers, citing long maternity leave, a large medical centre, high safety standards and a "zone of rest" at a lakeside out of town.

Babkin refers to his plant and employees as "mine" and is not loathe to talk in the first person. In the past many managers used the general term "we," preferring to emphasise the collective nature of

decision-making. Donning his expensive leather jacket and fur hat, Babkin embarks on a guided tour of the complex.

He relishes being seen talking to "his" workers and exudes a relaxed air reminiscent of Gorbachev on his walkabouts.

After Babkin's guided tour, a trip across town, to a steel mill, seems a step back in time.

The head of the "Cherepovets metallurgical complex named after the 50th anniversary of the USSR" is far less at ease when faced with a barrage of questions.

Yuri Lipukhin sits behind a long table, flanked by the head of the factory's party organisation and its delegate to the Communist Party congress which opens in Moscow on February 25.

Lipukhin reels off a list of figures for production, productivity and the five-year plan. The con-

gress would be a great landmark in the party's history, he says.

"What is needed is greater order, discipline and organisation. We fully support the party's battle against negative influences," he continues, occasionally looking down at his notes.

Back at the chemical plant, Babkin introduces one of his star workers, nominated to represent the factory at the congress.

Vera Petrovna joined the party in 1973 and has worked as a machine operator for six years. A diminutive and unassuming 36-year-old, she seems overawed by the attention of the Western media.

"I am not nervous about the congress. I won't be alone. We have already discussed the problems in town and regional meetings," she says, citing current party slogans such as "the need to fight alcoholism" and "to strengthen discipline."

## Israeli forces attack U.N.-patrolled village in southern Lebanon

(Continued from page 1)

long as there was a hope of finding the soldiers.

Israeli sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, were quoted by AP as confirming Israeli newspaper reports the army could stay through the weekend.

Maj.-Gen. Orr said Israel had no proof of the claim the captors had carried out the threat to kill one of the captured soldiers if Israel failed to withdraw by Wednesday night.

U.N. spokesman Timor Goksel said the Ghananian unit of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) suffered one casualty during the attack.

"They are fighting in Kfar Dounine," Goksel said. Reporters near the village said loud explosions rocked the area where big clouds of smoke could be seen billowing into the sky.

But it was not known whether the explosions were caused by shelling or houses of suspected commandos being blown up by the Israelis.

Kfar Dounine is the headquarters of the Ghananian battalion of the UNIFIL.

The Ghananian soldier was the second man in the 5,500-strong U.N. force to be wounded in the Israeli sweep. An Irish soldier was shot in the hip in the town of Bra-

neil troops punched out of the "security zone" Monday hunting for the two captive soldiers.

Most of Israel's tank fire was aimed at 30 houses on the northeast flank of Sufa. Fighters there had fired rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) and machine guns at Israeli units just to the northeast.

Dozens of young Lebanese wearing black neckerchiefs, the traditional emblem of Hizbollah, also fired RPGs and machine guns at straining helicopter gunships, but missed.

Three Cobra gunships circled over the town. Fighters of the Amal militia said

there were unconfirmed reports of clashes in the villages of Jwava and Haris, just north of the buffer zone.

The Israeli army in Tel Aviv said one Israeli soldier and eight commandos were killed in Sufa.

The Israeli was the second that Tel Aviv has admitted has been killed in the massive operation.

The first was a sailor killed aboard a gunboat hit by cannon fire off the South Lebanon port of Tyre on Tuesday.

Beirut Radio said Israeli tanks hammered Sufa with fresh barrages of tank cannon fire at daybreak Friday. But Goksel said there has been no major action

Sufa to the Kfar Dounine area during the night.

The Israelis have searched 20 villages and hamlets in the UNIFIL zone.

Lebanese militia communiques said nine fighters have been killed and 17 wounded. Another 327 men were listed as missing, presumed detained by the Israelis.

Goksel confirmed 130 Lebanese had been rounded up and apparently taken south for interrogation.

The Israeli sweep is the biggest military operation launched since the Israelis withdrew the bulk of their army last June to end three

Amal militia officials, witnesses told Reuters.

Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials meanwhile said the United States was trying to persuade Israel to withdraw "back into the security zone." Washington was "concerned" that Israeli forces had advanced into areas controlled by the UNIFIL, diplomatic sources added. Reuters said.

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed in New York to Israel to withdraw forces sent into Lebanon and to exercise maximum restraint in dealing with civilians there.



## JTV preview

## A good mix from channel six

J.H. Boteler

APART from *End Of Empire*, by now considered such an indispensable viewing that it is being repeated on both channels on Friday afternoons, it would seem that the outstanding highlights of this coming week are the two feature films. But there must be no pecking; in the true traditional manner they must wait their turn while we start with:

## Comedies

Pestilence and disease strike the cheerful students tonight in *Mind Your Language*, when a visiting Nigerian education officer keels over in the classroom and is rushed to hospital, and possible Lassa fever is diagnosed. Mr. Brown and his charges are consigned to an isolation ward overnight, and doubtless worry about health will soon give way to the more pressing problem of the sleeping arrangements, especially concerning Ingrid and her noble female companions. Oooh. La La! Last Sunday's episode of *The Cabbage Patch* produced a warm and blissful glow of contentment with the sight of the loathsome Amanda dissolving into tears. This week however the problems are truly piling up. First signs of this are when Craig — another of life's dispensable characters — wants Janet to go to an exhibition of chicken appliances the day before the school production of "Alice in Wonderland." Janet agrees, but on the condition that Craig makes a caterpillar costume for Kate. A rather foolish idea this I would have thought, since Craig looks as if he would have difficulty replacing a button, and of course he botches the job. Grizzles and tantrums ensue, fuelled by Tony (dad) having to go to Scotland on business and thereby missing the play. (One excellent feature of this series is the fact that it is the first one of its kind to show children as something other than as sickly, perfected ideals from a chocolate box lid.) Panic and confusion, recriminations and misunderstandings all occur, but I have the feeling that by the end of the series, (next week), all will be roses. Monday continues with *Carol Burnett And Friends*, while on Tuesday strife and family discord reign supreme in *That's My Boy*, (as they generally do), when one of Robert's mothers receives a dinner invitation much to the ire of the other one. His Majesty King Hussein's speech last Wednesday naturally meant that the spectacle of Jack making a complete fool of himself and offending an entire party in *Three's Company* has been deferred to this week. Thursday's *Good Night and Good Bless* seems to have jumped the gun slightly, but on the evidence of the first episode, this may not be such a bad thing, since it will enable it to end sooner. Part of the trouble would seem to lie in it being a parody of the television game-show. In England and America, where such facile displays of mindless greed are de rigueur, the parody can be appreciated. (But then again, most of the fans of these shows don't have the brains to recognise the joke.) But here in Jordan, where such drivel is sensible enough, what are people to make of it? Anyway, last week should have shown that Ronnie is a tight-fisted miser and that there is not that much love lost in his family circle. More evidence of this is provided this week. Ronnie's initial gleed at learning that ex-wife Audrey is remarrying and that therefore he won't have to continue paying alimony is dampened when he discovers that the fiancée, Nigel, is a part-time mercenary who needs a loan in order to get married. Subsequent developments prove Ronnie to have been the victim of a "Sting" set-up.

pair excellence. The week ends with more esoteric philosophy from Mr. Belvedere.

## Documentaries

Tonight's subject in *Starring The Actors* is the very accomplished and sensitive Anthony Hopkins, and the programme includes clips from "The Elephant Man" and "The Lion In Winter." Wednesday has last week's deferred episode of *Ancient Lives*, which examines the life-style of the women of the village. And so to Sunday, and *End Of Empire*. There's not really much to say about last week's episode. One could congratulate Hugh Gaitskill (at the time leader of the Labour opposition) for his calm and lucid hatchet job on the government position, and the BBC for resisting government pressure and giving him the chance. (Would they have the same integrity today? The shadow of "Real Lives" looms). One could also recall, albeit wryly, the cheery news-reader who breezed on about the minimal casualties suffered in the capture of Port Said. Had he forgotten about the 2,000 to 3,000 Egyptians killed or taken prisoner by Israel in Gaza and Sinai? Or perhaps they simply didn't count? But as for the rest: Oh dear, oh dear. One thing though must be said: given Sir Anthony Eden's pathological hatred of Nasser I shudder to think what he would have done if he had been in power when Nasser got involved with Aden, which is what this week's history lesson is concerned with. As nationalism swept through Asia and the Middle East and began to disturb the even tenor of British ways even in Africa, one colony remained secure. Aden was remote from the winds of change, isolated by the sea before it and the Arabian desert behind it, which was populated by tribes more concerned with disputes amongst themselves than with uniting against the colonial presence. The port of Aden was a major trading post on the route to British possessions in the far east, and became a great duty-free bazaar. Indian, Somali, Arab, Greek and other traders settled here to get rich, not to cause political trouble. Business was good. When in 1951 the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company was evicted from Iran, it built a huge new refinery in Aden and prospered afresh. Aden did not even have a local population to cause trouble. Most manual workers came from the Yemen or the Aden protectorates and, after a year or two earning good money, went back home. So when British forces were forced to leave the bases they had occupied in Palestine, Egypt, Jordan and Iraq, they set up home in the one British colony where nothing could go wrong. True, the appalling heat gave it a reputation among the soldiers as the worst "punishment station," but for the rest Aden earned the happy sobriquet of "the Land of Nod." Unfortunately all this was about to come undone through that very handy device, the transistor radio. Aden being a duty-free port, simply everybody had one, and one morning the British woke up and were rather miffed, and more than a bit alarmed, to find everyone listening to Nasser's "Voice Of The Arabs," and liking what they heard. The British set out to forestall any Nasserite developments by helping the sultans, sheiks and amirs of the protectorates to club together. In February 1959 the Federation of Arab Emirates of the South was created, on the understanding that it would soon become an independent state, but so poor that it would remain tied to Britain by economic necessity.

And so things toddled happily along, until, in September 1962, Nasser struck again. He backed a republican group which overthrew the Imam of the traditional monarchy of the Yemen. The British and several of the sultans of the protectorates backed the Royalists in Yemen against the new republican government. Nasser and the republicans hit back by training and arming the National Liberation Front guerrilla movement, which proved itself very effectively. At the same time Nasser was also financing a nationalist movement in Aden, centred on the trade unions in the refinery and harbour. In 1964 Harold Wilson's Labour government was elected in England. Opposed to Britain's policy in the area whilst in opposition, they changed tack once in power because the U.S.A., bogged down in Vietnam, promised to help shore up England's economy if England performed their policing role in Aden. However successive economic crises led to a decision by Britain to quit Aden in February 1966. The British, long committed to hand sovereignty to an independent federation, now announced that when they did so they could not offer the military protection they had promised. The two nationalist movements Nasser had backed began a savage struggle for the succession. So, unable to control events, the British packed up their military stores, averted their gaze as the local rivals noisily went about killing each other, and crept out as softly as they could.

## Detectives and drama

You will doubtless be amazed to hear that on Sunday *Dempsey And Makepeace* have to tackle a gang of bank robbers. The variation on this eternal theme this time is that the buddies have grabbed some hostages and have taken a bus to the airport. The plot line for Tuesday's *Murder, She Wrote* is not known, but I don't suppose it will hold many surprises. As for *Hunter*, this Friday he has to deal with Donny, a Vietnam veteran with a severe personality problem and a tendency towards arson.

Drama is fairly strong this week.

## Tonight

*Mind Your Language*..... 8:30  
*Starring The Actors*..... 9:00  
*Varieties*..... 9:30  
Feature Film: *The Birds*..... 10:20

## Sunday

*The Cabbage Patch*..... 8:30  
*End Of Empire*..... 9:10  
*Dempsey And Makepeace*..... 10:20

## Monday

*Carol Burnett And Friends*..... 8:30  
*American Short Story*..... 9:10  
*Dallas*..... 10:20

## Tuesday

*That's My Boy*..... 8:30  
*A Fortunate Life*..... 9:10  
*Murder, She Wrote*..... 10:20

## Wednesday

*Three's Company*..... 8:30  
*Ancient Lives*..... 9:10  
*Falcon Crest*..... 10:20

## Thursday

*Goodnight And Good Bless*..... 8:30  
*Return To Eden*..... 9:10  
Feature Film: *The Graduate*..... 10:20

## Friday

*Mr. Belvedere*..... 8:30  
*Kane And Abel*..... 9:10  
*Hunter*..... 10:20

Monday's *American Short Story* is entitled "The Sky Is Grey" and tells the story of a black mother and her son and their fight against racial discrimination. Tuesday sees the last instalment of a *Fortunate Life*. Only a few more body-blows in store from Lady Luck, but they promise to be telling ones before Bert can finally stagger home. Here something nice finally does happen for our battered hero, and whilst the future may appear rosy, the only fortune in Bert's life so far has been that he managed to survive it. Which leaves us with Kane and Abel on Friday. I must apologise for the misleading information I gave concerning this last week. The trouble was that it is one of these mini-series and that, whereas parts two and three are both two hours long part one is three hours long. So this week should see the Wall Street crash, romantic adventures and Abel gloowering and shaking his fist, vowing revenge on Kane. Which is something he is providing fairly adept at. Indeed Abel goes a long way to proving the old Polish saying: "A pole becomes great when he howls in pain." I don't know what happened last night but if the first episode was anything to go by it had a lot of people who were on talking terms with Abel dying and life being grim. Some rather strange things about episode one: why did the Germans keep the local peasants locked up in a dungeon when the sensible thing would have been to put them to work in the fields? Why, when all his fellow male prisoners had beards as long as Rumpelstiltskins, did Abel remain clean-shaven? But the most fatuous thing was to have everyone speaking broken English with thick Polish accents. Yes, I grant that people in Poland talk to each other with Polish accents, but they would also speak Polish. People do tend to speak to their fellow-countrymen in their mother-tongue. By all means have them speaking English in a television programme for the ease of all, but make it proper English, not some ghastly heavily-accented pidgin variety. This is an old failing of film and television, and should be dispensed with speedily.

## Soaps

*Dallas*, (Monday), continues to pile disaster upon disaster. This week sees Ray having a punch-up with J.R. and Southfork going up in flames. Through it all Sue Ellen continues to get completely sozzled, no doubt due to her mortification that it is through her recklessness that the Poison Dwarf's boyfriend is a cripple. Quite why she's worrying so much I don't know; the lad will doubtless be up and about in no time, if the fate of Chase in *Falcon's Crest*, (Wednesday), is anything to go by. One moment wasting away in a hospital bed, the next driving vintage cars and flying Tiger-Moths. Is this due to something in the wine, or the sense of reality displayed by script-writers? The only information I could get from JTV promotions concerning this week's instalment was "more of the same" which I think puts it in a nutshell. More of Angela bribing and conniving her way through life, more tirades from the aggrieved Italian baker, more trouble for the evil Doctor Langtree, more bitching from Richard and Melissa, more stern looks and good intentions from Michael Ransome, more of everything, plus the added ingredient of Maggie's selfish sister Terri, out to cause trouble. Hah! They should worry. Brothers and sisters are all the rage in *Return To Eden*, (Thursday). This programme gives the impression that one half of Australia is brother or sister to the other half, but doesn't know it. So far we've had a reunion between



TEA for two, and two for tea, I hate you and you hate me. Kane and Abel. Friday at 9:10

Stephanie and Jilly. Stephanie not knowing that Jake is her brother-in-law, and her daughter planning to marry a handsome hunk who is in reality her brother. Two weeks ago saw them going upstairs hand-in-hand. I would think frantically to think again, but to no avail. I don't think they were planning to take a cold shower. The same episode — deadlines restrict me to referring to the episode before last — had a scene I saw on the "Mary Tyler Moore Show." And then as a send-up, it was *THE RUN*. You know the run. Two people amroach each other from a long distance. Suddenly they recognise each other, and start running, in slow motion and with insane grins on their faces, until they collide and spin around. It was priceless.

## Feature films

Would you believe *The Birds* and *The Graduate*? Hitchcock's 1963 shocker about a Californian

coastal area where flocks of birds unaccountably make deadly attacks on humans is tonight's treat. Rod Taylor, Tippi Hendren, Suzanne Pleshette and about two billion crazed starlings, crows, gulls and pigeons star in a film that starts as light comedy and ends as dark and brooding allegory, and gives the Royal Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Birds a heart-attack. Oh yes, and the last scene is great too. Thursday has *The Graduate*, which won Mike Nichols the 1967 Oscar for best director. It stars Dustin Hoffman — it launched him to stardom — Anne Bancroft — a superb performance — and Katherine Ross. A rich Californian ex-student is led into an affair with the wife of his father's friend and then falls in love with her daughter. It is both hilarious and tragic, marvellously acted, beautifully filmed, and has a notable music score from Simon and Garfunkle. And, surprise it also has a great last scene. What more could you ask?

## Oxford emerges as centre of Yiddish studies

By Alan Elmer

OXFORD, England — Yiddish, the language once spoken in the Jewish ghettos of Eastern Europe, is undergoing an unlikely academic revival among the medieval courtyards and spires of Oxford University.

Oxford, where the language was first taught in 1972, is now acknowledged as the premier institution of Yiddish scholarship in Europe and the third most important world centre for its study after New York's Columbia University and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

"It is certainly an astonishing development, involving non-Jewish as well as Jewish students," said David Patterson, president of the Oxford Centre of Hebrew Studies.

Oxford also boasts its own Yiddish author, 30-year-old Elinore Robinson, a non-Jew who learnt the language at the university and has been hailed as a major new writer of short stories and novels in the tradition of Nobel Prize winner Isaac Bashevis Singer.

Yiddish first emerged in Central Europe about 1,000 years ago as a mix of German dialects with elements of Hebrew, Aramaic and medieval French and Italian. It later spread eastwards, gaining a considerable Slavic content.

At its height, it was spoken by millions of Jews from the Netherlands in the west to Italy in the south and deep into the heart of Russia.

Today, Yiddish is spoken by an estimated 4.5 million people, concentrated in the United States and Israel, according to David Katz, a New York-born research fellow who has been teaching Yiddish at Oxford since 1978.

"The largest concentration is still the last generation of Eastern European Jews born before World War II, but they are obviously dying out and the vast majority have not passed the language on to their children," he said.

Yiddish survives as a language of everyday life only among communities of ultra-orthodox Jews who have turned their backs on the modern world and seek to preserve the lifestyle of their forefathers in Russia and Poland.

Many Jews still have ambivalent attitudes towards the language,

which they associate with the pain and humiliation of ghetto life, culminating in the Nazi holocaust.

The founding fathers of Zionism were openly hostile to Yiddish and promoted Hebrew as the language of the emerging Jewish state.

Katz said it was against the law to publish a Yiddish daily newspaper in Israel until the late 1960s.

But he said the language had undergone a reawakening of interest among Jewish youth, primarily in North America.

"People suddenly realised that an entire culture, a rich heritage of drama and poetry, humour, satire, philosophy and history, was in danger of passing away," he said.

He said the emergence of Oxford as a centre for Yiddish studies was not as incongruous as it might appear.

"Hebrew has been studied here for five hundred years and Oxford's Bodleian Library probably contains the best collection of old Yiddish books in the world," he said.

The collection was brought together by an 18th century rabbi from Prague and acquired by the Bodleian in 1829. It includes 5,000 rare books and manuscripts dating back to 1530.

Today, students can gain a bachelor's degree and post-graduate qualifications at Oxford. Katz expects to have seven doctoral students on his register next year.

The highlights of this year are the world's premier annual Yiddish academic symposium, which attracts experts from all over the world, and a month-long intensive language course held every summer, the only one of its kind in Europe.

"Last year, we had 87 people on our summer course, from many different countries and backgrounds," he said.

Two of the regular instructors are Elinore Robinson and Christopher Hutton, a non-Jewish academic studying for his doctorate in Yiddish linguistics.

Katz has also launched the world's first Yiddish academic journal to appear in a generation and is about to begin publishing a literary magazine. In his spare time, he is working on a Yiddish-language computer programme.

## Iraqis keep up air and ground pressure on Fao

(Continued from page 1)

110 kilometres east of the Iraq-Iran border.

An Iranian underground group said on Friday the downed Iranian plane was a military transport, and not a civilian airliner as claimed by the Iranian government.

The official Iranian news agency, IRNA, said a personal representative of Ayatollah Khomeini and six members of Iran's parliament were among those killed aboard the plane.

The Paris-based Iranian underground group, the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, said the downed aircraft was a military transport and that 46 people were killed.

The Mujahedeen statement, which was relayed to the Associated Press bureau in Nicosia, said the plane was a Fokker Friendship military transport, registration number S-818, belonging to the light transport wing of the Iranian air force based at Tehran's Doshan Tabeh airbase.

The group said its information came from "Iranian armed forces personnel supporting the Peoples Mujahedeen".

Rajae Khorassani, Iran's amb-

assador to the United Nations, said in New York on Thursday there had been 46 people aboard the downed craft, in addition to the crew, and that all were killed.

IRNA said the victims included Hojatoleslam Fadhollah Mahallati, representative to the Revolutionary Guard Corps for Ayatollah Khomeini, Iran's spiritual leader.

The plane was carrying passengers to visit "the latest victories of the Islamic combatants," and came down 25 kilometres north of Ahvaz, IRNA reported.

Aviation sources in the Gulf area, who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity, said the plane had picked up wounded servicemen from Ahvaz before it was shot down.

At the U.N., diplomats told Reuters the text of the proposed Security Council resolution on the Gulf war was unacceptable in its current form to both Iraq and Iran and it was certain to undergo revisions.

All 10 elected members of the 15-nation council were said to have taken part in the consultations. These members include non-aligned states and such

countries as Australia, Denmark, Thailand and Venezuela.

The draft shown to reporters would have the council state that it "deplores the initial acts which gave rise to the conflict... which is now in its sixth year and which has continued unnecessarily."

The draft text would have the council call on the two to "submit immediately to mediation all aspects of the conflict, including withdrawal of forces to the international boundary, with a view to putting a permanent end to all hostilities."

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would be directed to assist Iran and Iraq to give effect to the proposed resolution and keep the Security Council informed.

Debate on the conflict was continuing. Iran is not participating in the proceedings, having accused the council of bias in Iraq's favour.

For its part, Iraq has accused the council of standing on the sidelines and encouraging Iran's aggression.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Masri conferred with the Secretary General Perez de Cue-

llar and the discussions focused on the latest developments of the Middle East region and the Iranian offensive against Iraq, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

In the council debate, Bahrain's U.N. representative, Hussain Al Sabbagh, said Iran was "hiding behind its obstinate policy and continues its premeditated aggression against Iraq."

He said Iran had destroyed Iraq's ports early in the war, preventing it from exporting its oil. This was a violation of Iraq's legitimate rights over its territory and air space.

With its latest offensive, Iran was trying to deprive Iraq of its rights to trade and navigation through the Gulf, he stated.

"Through this council, we ask Iran to abandon its policy, because history and geography have forged links of good neighbourliness and constant ties bind us," Mr. Sabbagh said.

Bahrain is asking the Security Council to put an end to this war, because the consequences would be very difficult not just for the Gulf countries but for the entire world.

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## Investigation into horse racing scandal continues

**HONG KONG (Agencies) — Twelve people being held in connection with Hong Kong's worst horse racing scandal in years will be freed on bail of \$6,400 to \$128,000, anti-graft officials said Friday.**

Officials declined to name any of them but said no charges had been filed. All would continue to assist in a probe into suspected racing malpractices.

"There is nothing more we can say at this time," said an official of the Independent Commission Against Crime, the anti-graft agency spearheading the investigation.

The ICAC arrested 22 people Thursday. Ten were later released on bail.

The Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club announced Thursday it had suspended the licenses of 11 Australian, British and Hong Kong jockeys and those of two trainers pending further investigations.

Australian Gary Moore, who has been Hong Kong's champion rider on several occasions, was among the suspended jockeys. Others include trainer Derek Kent of Britain, and jockeys David Brosnan, Rod Staples, Pat Trotter and Greg Hall, all of Australia, and Bruce Raymond of Britain.

Officials declined to say whether the jockeys and trainers were among those arrested.

Most of those arrested were picked up in pre-dawn raids at their homes and their travel documents and bank accounts were seized, officials said.

The wife of one jockey told a local newspaper that anti-graft agents came to her flat in the early morning hours Thursday, looking for her husband.

"They came in and demanded to see my husband. Then they took our passports and bank statements and took him away," she said.

The South China Morning Post quoted an unnamed ICAC source as saying one jockey came under suspicion when he deposited more

than \$25,640 into his bank account.

The Hong Kong Standard said many of the suspects were caught by surveillance cameras at the jockey club making hand signals before races which investigators interpreted as code.

Horse-racing is Hong Kong's most popular officially-sanctioned form of gambling. Last year, the jockey club's betting turnover totalled \$2.5 billion.

Officials said the scandal was the worst since the sport turned professional in 1971 in a move to curb race-fixing. Earlier that year, it was discovered that gamblers had managed to dope almost 90 horses to fix races.

### British soccer officials express optimism regarding FIFA ban

**LONDON (R) — Two senior British soccer officials have expressed optimism about the chances of English clubs being allowed back into European competition.**

Northern Ireland's Harry Cavan, senior vice-president of the world soccer body FIFA, told journalists in Manchester Thursday that he expected a lifting of the indefinite ban on English clubs playing in Europe, imposed after the riot by Liverpool fans at last season's European Cup final.

"I attended the (last) FIFA meeting and there was an impassioned plea from a Danish representative to allow English clubs back which was favourably received," Cavan said. "In light of the

information we give at the next conference in Portugal (in April), I expect the ban to be lifted."

Cavan did not say whether he expected the ban would be removed for next season's competitions.

Ted Croker, secretary of the English Football Association, was also hopeful about the future but said the recent incident at Liverpool when a fan sprayed the Manchester United players with an irritant had not helped the English cause.

"We haven't said ourselves yet whether we want English clubs back in Europe next year, although it is likely that we want the situation to be reviewed," he said.

## Connors stays on hard road to finals

**BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Third-seeded Jimmy Connors survived 30 aces Wednesday in beating sixth-seeded Yannick Noah of France 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (9-7), 6-4 to reach the semifinals of the \$1.8 million International Players Tennis Championships.**

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and fifth seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden had a far easier time in gaining the semifinals as they posted straight-set victories. Lendl defeated 10th-seeded Joakim Nystrom of Sweden 6-1, 6-1, 6-4 and Edberg required only 70 minutes in crushing unseeded Milan Sjerber of Czechoslovakia 6-1, 6-0, 6-2.

Second-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden was the last player to reach the semifinals when he beat Guy Forget of France 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 Wednesday night.

The Swede lost a service duel in the first set when Forget held serve throughout while breaking Wilander once, in the 11th game. But Wilander recovered from 2-4 in the second set and was in command the rest of the way.

"At the start I felt I wasn't in the match at all," Wilander said. "In the second set, I thought I had lost it. He was within a point of 5-2. I don't know what happened."

Forget said: "My serve started to go down. I was getting a little tired. It was so close, one or two points and I could have had him; two sets to love. It would have

been a different story."

Noah was able to convert only three of 26 breakpoints in the three hour and 48-minute duel against Connors, who has been extended to the limit in his last four matches in this two-week tournament.

The big Frenchman also squandered two sets at 6-4 in the third set tiebreaker which he ultimately lost.

"I had so many break points," Noah said. "I don't remember a match where I had so many and didn't make them. I made so many errors on my forehand."

"Aces don't win tennis matches," Connors said. "If he missed his first serve, I'd try to take advantage of the second one. But 30 aces over four long sets aren't overwhelming."

Connors thought a Noah error when he had double-setpoint at 6-4 in the tiebreaker was particularly significant.

"He hit loose," Connors said. "For him to miss a shot like that gave me a chance. Once we got 6-all, I played three aggressive points to win it."

Noah won the first set with a service break in the 11th game. Connors then went up 3-0 in the second set but Noah squared it before the veteran American broke through in the 10th game for the set.

Both players broke service en route to 4-4 in the third set. Con-

nor then held for 5-4 in a 16-point game and again, from 0-40 in another 16-point game to 6-5.

Noah served at love to 6-6, then reached 6-4 in the tiebreaker. But he lost one chance with a long forehand after which Connors drew even with a placement winner and eventually won it 9-7 on a Noah error and a volley winner.

Connors broke Noah's service in the opening game of the fourth set — the only break of the set — and recovered from 15-40 in the final game, winning the last four points, the final one on his only ace of the match.

Lendl said he was pleased with his performance against Nystrom, who had lost only 17 games in winning four previous matches en route to the quarterfinals.

"I was happy," Lendl said. "Except for three games — the first game in the third set when he held serve after I had a break point, and when he took two games after I led 5-2 and was serving for the match."

"I didn't play well, but he played very well," Nystrom said. "He waited for the right moment and put the pressure on me. He had both power and depth and hit the ball very long from the baseline."

"Nystrom's style of play can't hurt you much," Lendl said. "If you play well you can blow him away."

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Sharari returns from Damascus talks

**AMMAN (Petra) — Youth and Sports Minister Hisham Sharari returned home Friday at the end of a four day official visit to Damascus, during which he held talks with Syrian Interior Minister Mohammad Ghabbash and senior officials and attended the 3rd conference of the Syrian Sports Federation. During his visit to Syria, Mr. Sharari also held talks with Mr. Said Hamadi, chief of the Youth and Sports Office, and Mr. Samih Mudallal, chairman of the General Sports Federation, on means of developing sports cooperation and exchanges between Jordan and Syria.**

### Hagler promises to tame "The Beast"

**PALM SPRINGS, California (R) — Shakespeare had his "Taming of the Shrew," but undisputed world middleweight champion "marvelous" Marvin Hagler is ready to write his own version — "The Taming of the Beast." "I'm the beast master, I plan on taming this man," Hagler said Thursday at a news conference in advance of his title defence against John "The Beast" Mugabi on March 10 in Las Vegas. "I'm a better fighter in every department," Hagler said.**

### Hadlee claims his 300th wicket

**WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand fast bowler Richard Hadlee captured his 300th test wicket on the first day of the first test against Australia Friday, but the tourists ended the session in a sound position at 285 for four. Greg Matthews and Greg Ritchie were both unbeaten on 55. When Hadlee trapped skipper Allan Border for an LBW decision in the second over after tea Hadlee became only the sixth bowler in cricket history to claim 300 test wickets.**

### IAAF to reinstate Nehemiah, Gault

**MADRID, Spain (AP) — The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) made a decisive move here Friday towards the reinstatement in track and field competition, including the Olympic Games, of banned American hurdlers Renaldo Nehemiah and Willie Gault. The 22-member executive council voted unanimously to change the IAAF rules in order to allow the reinstatement of the two Americans, who were banned after signing pro-football contracts.**

## Brian Clough hides pride for his talented son Nigel

**LONDON (R) — Outspoken soccer manager Brian Clough has no delusions about his talented 19-year-old son Nigel.**

Even when he picked up the award for Young Player of the Month Thursday, father Brian, a masterly and lethal striker in his own playing days, kept his feet firmly on the ground.

He said: "Nigel is slower in pace than most centre forwards and I can't improve him on that. But I am hoping he will develop the required pace as he gets older."

Nigel was brought into the Nottingham Forest first team after striker Garry Birtles was injured. But the youngster has made the most of his opportunity, impressing a panel of experts headed by England manager Bobby Robson.

Clough, always the realist, said: "I brought Nigel into the team and he has survived. That is the name of the game."

He refused to get carried away, saying: "I cannot afford to be proud of him in my present employment."

But, jokingly, he added: "Once I get the sack I'll be able to be proud like any other father."

Clough junior can carry on the good work, weather permitting, at

Watford Saturday when Forest bid for their seventh away victory of the season.

At the top of the division, champions Everton make the short trip across the city to Liverpool knowing that victory would keep them well on the path to retaining their title.

An Everton win would take them eight points clear of their neighbours and provide the ideal springboard for the rest of the season.

Everton have doubts about Paul Bracewell, who is struggling with a foot injury. Liverpool will give late fitness tests to goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar and striker Ian Rush, who were both injured in the Cup replay victory over York on Tuesday.

Everton's nearest challengers, Manchester United, have an easy looking home fixture with bottom club West Bromwich Albion.

United manager Ron Atkinson has retained goalkeeper Chris Turner, who made his debut against Liverpool earlier this month, in preference to England's number two goalkeeper Gary Bailey.

United striker Norman Whiteside misses his first game of the season because of a two-match suspension. Welsh international Clayton Blackmore, who was a victim of the irritant spray incident at Liverpool, takes over.

## Zico at 32: 'The same as ever'

**RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Injury permitting, the world of football will have its last tantalising glimpse of the incomparable Zico in Mexico this June.**

Approaching 33, the soccer scorer in the famous number 10 shirt of Brazil, will not be around for the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

Like Pele before him, Zico does not belong to Brazil alone. He has become part of football folklore and, nationalistic feelings apart, no-one could begrudge him the World Cup winners' medal his unique talent so richly deserves.

After an unhappy spell in Italy with Udinese, Zico is now back in Brazil where, following a prolonged layoff due to injury, he showed all his old magic on his return last weekend.

In his first competitive game for five months, Zico crowned a stu-

ring display by scoring a hat-trick in Flamengo's 4-1 thrashing of Rio De Janeiro rivals Fluminense.

"I showed them I wasn't fooling when I insisted I was the same as ever," said a delighted Zico after the game.

Many had feared that surgery last October for an injury to his left knee, caused by yet another violent tackle during a Rio League match, might mark the end of a glorious career.

But his performance on Sunday, when he scored his 700th goal for Flamengo in 646 appearances over the past 15 years, banished all fears about his fitness.

Zico's three goals showed his striker's instinct to be as sharp as ever.

The first came from a diving header, the second was a classic, wickedly-struck free-kick, and the

third came from a penalty. While the 85,000 fans in the Maracana stadium wildly applauded that scoring feat, Brazilian team manager Tele Santana was equally pleased to see Zico twisting and turning freely and withstanding some flailing tackles from desperate Fluminense defenders.

Santana, who also managed Brazil's ill-fated 1982 World Cup team, has had to face some criticism for recalling so many veterans.

Eight of the players are over 30 and critics suggest the likes of Zico, Socrates Falcao may be too old to cope with Mexico's rarefied atmosphere.

"Don't say I'm going to be 33, tell them I'll be 31," Zico joked with a reporter after Sunday's game. "In Brazil, everyone thinks a player over 30 is finished."

## England goes to Mexico seeking to escape the shadow of its fans

By Timothy Collings

Reuter

**LONDON — England, defending champions when the World Cup was last held in Mexico in 1970, will be seeking to defend their traditions and reputation at this year's finals.**

After years of hooliganism and violence and the traumas of 1985 when English soccer suffered the tragedies of the Bradford Stadium fire and the Brussels riot, it is as important for manager Bobby Robson's squad to restore England's name as to win the coveted trophy.

The terrible events at the Heysel Stadium where 39 people lost their lives as a result of crowd violence at the European Cup final between Liverpool and Italy's Juventus have hung like a spectre over the English game and, as Robson has acknowledged, the national team will carry a heavy burden of responsibility for healing some of the scars with their showing in Mexico.

England's manager, however, will need to prove himself a more astute diplomat than Sir Alf Ramsey, who turned the local fans against his team in 1970 with a cold disdain for public relations. If he is to succeed in restoring England's reputation for honour both on and off the pitch.

Robson, who experienced the prickly road ahead when he took England on a brief tour of Mexico last year, did nothing to reduce his problems with his blunt comments about England's first round venue, Monterrey, the sun-baked northern city which is 10 degrees hotter and 1,520 metres lower in altitude than any other venue.

During England's tour last year, Robson said it "would be impossible for a team based in Monterrey to win the World Cup," while at the time of the draw, which placed England with Poland, Portugal and Morocco, he said Monterrey was the "rough diamond in a collection of gems."

The Mexican press made the most of the statements and, charged by reports of the behaviour of English fans abroad, undid much of the good work done last year.

"The animals are coming" screamed one headline in Monterrey after the draw was made, echoing Ramsey's description of Argentina's players in England in 1966.

But, despite such a back drop of animosity, Robson's robust and hard-working squad can be expected to perform soundly in Mexico — and without any of the disciplinary problems often wrothfully levelled at them.

While their followers justly have a reputation for their excesses — a trail of wanton destruction has followed England across Europe in the past — the England players' own conduct is second to none.

Indeed, as administrator Alan Odell pointed out, England had only two players cautioned and none sent off in their eight qualifying matches.

Such self-discipline and careful organisation, broken by flashes of inspiration, will be the strength of England's bid to improve on a disappointing second phase exit in Spain in 1982.

Though they were unbeaten in five games in the finals, they were eliminated through failing to score when goals were most needed at the highest level.

Manager Robson took over from Ron Greenwood after the tournament and since that dull failure in Madrid has guided England through 39 matches with only nine defeats.

Robson was an energetic and combative wing-half in his playing days when he won 20 England caps. He has moulded the team in his image and most particularly in the example of his captain and namesake Bryan Robson, a buccaneering, inspirational figure whose chief weakness is a vulnerability to injury exacerbated by his style and the excessive demands of English domestic club soccer.

Without him, on several occasions, England have been a blunt instrument, lacking both energy and invention.

The Manchester United captain has recently recovered from a long-term hamstring injury and should be fit to take his place in Mexico where his all-round mid-

field style is likely to provide the perfect foil to the more languid but artistic Glenn Hoddle.

These two will be the fulcrum of a team in which Peter Shilton, 35, a veteran of 76 internationals, is the undoubted star. A world-class player who recently became England's most-capped goalkeeper, Shilton remains a formidable professional and a great comfort to the otherwise exceptional defence in front of him.

Robson's chief problems lie in attack where he has yet to settle on a combination of strikers for the finals. Gary Lineker, a brave and quick centre-forward with league champions Everton, seems a certainty, but doubts persist about the fitness and mobility of his possible partners. Mark Hateley of AC Milan and Chelsea's Kerry Dixon.

Forthcoming warm-up fixtures against Israel next week, the Soviet Union in March and Scotland in April will give Robson his final opportunities for experiments.

Nevertheless, England, who will be appearing in their eighth finals, qualified with a convincing unbeaten record against Northern Ireland, Romania, Finland and Turkey and possess in Jamaican-born winger John Barnes an unpredictable match-winner with the skills and strength to upset the best opposition.

He scored a spectacular individual goal against Brazil during England's 2-0 win in the Rio de Janeiro in 1984 and, if his temperament permits, could be a trump card in Mexico.

In preparation for the tournament, England will train in the United States at high altitude Colorado Springs during May, a spell to be broken only by matches against Mexican club side Guadalajara in Los Angeles and World Cup finalists Canada in Vancouver, before their arrival in Monterrey.

Once there England will stay outside the city in the nearby mountains at Camino Real, hoping they will not lose the advantages of their altitude training before a possible second round move to a genuine high-altitude venue where the real task of re-establishing their place in the order of world soccer will begin.

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### EXPERIENCED SECRETARY NEEDED IN IRBID

U.S. Consulting Engineering Company currently working in Irbid requires an experienced English speaking secretary. The successful candidate will be required to supervise other secretaries, proof-read letters and reports, and compile reports, in addition to other secretarial duties. Previous experience with consultants or contractors, and Arabic speaking, would be an asset but not essential.

Call Kamel Absi in Irbid at 276415 for further information and appointment for interview. Inexperienced secretaries need not apply.

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(Colour)

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(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15

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**THE LOST EMPIRE**

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(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30



## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4435/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3405/10	Canadian dollars
	2.3145/60	West German marks
	2.6145/60	Dutch guilders
	1.9350/70	Swiss francs
	47.34/41	Belgian francs
	7.1075/1125	French francs
	1574/1576	Italian lire
	182.85/183.15	Japanese yen
	7.3450/3500	Swedish crowns
	7.2100/50	Norwegian crowns
	8.5375/5425	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	338.80/339.30	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed the fortnightly account sharply higher with share indices breaking new ground.

Turnover was moderate to heavy. At 1544 GMT the FT 30 index was 18.9 up at 1,252.1 after touching 1,252.3 while the FTSE 100 index was 21.1 up at 1,513.2 after reaching 1,513.4. ICI firm 21p to 882 and Glaxo was 60p up at 1,000. Government bonds showed net gains of up to 1/2 point in late trading and North Americans were higher. Speculative demand led to gains of 31p in MEPC at 380, 6p in T.I. group at 431, 10p in Standard Chartered at 492 and 13p in Fisons at 501. Lucas rose 16p to 601 after news it plans to close a plant. Grand Metropolitan advanced 15p to 388 following an analysts' meeting.

Imperial Group rose 15p to 314 after accepting the 343p per share offer from United Biscuits, 3p up at 221. Rival suitor Hanson Trust added 10p to 158. In firm electronics Amstrad was 24p higher at 358. Oils were firmer on balance with B.P. 3p up at 538. In higher insurances Royal rose 10p to 848.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 22, 1986  
GENERAL TENDENCIES: Use this day to your advantage by considering your plans that have the greatest scope to them and going after them with courage and conviction.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have fine creative ideas and can make them operate nicely for you so be very sociable and charming.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Spend as much time as you can with kin and show you are devoted and interested in their welfare.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A fine day for visiting with those who are successful and can help you to become that way, so listen to suggestions given to you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study your financial status and find some way of gaining a greater abundance in the future.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out in public and make a fine impression on others and add to the prestige you now enjoy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A good day to continue only with those activities that are profitable and drop the others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Look to a generous pal who can show you how to gain your objectives without too much work and trouble.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be sure to see a prominent person you know who can give you backing you need and forget all that data gathering today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Go to some new site, where you can garner first-hand knowledge you need, and you can soon increase your success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be more affectionate with your mate and others and take that chip off your shoulder so that you'll be happier.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) One of great experience can show you how to build a firmer structure to your mode of living.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A good day to make improvements to your home, add touches of artistry to it and strive for more comfort.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she should have the finest education in some field that he or she desires to pursue as a life's work and be happy in it, and will rise very quickly to the top since that is the desire. Be sure to give praise for any exceptional work that is done and raise the incentive thereby.

## THE Daily Crossword by Mary Coo Whitten

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# Marcos increasingly isolated as election row continues

**HONG KONG (R)** — Growing condemnation by other governments of the Philippine election is leaving President Ferdinand Marcos increasingly isolated, a Reuter survey shows.

Opposition to Mr. Marcos' claim of victory in Feb. 7 polls marked by fraud and violence has so far been confined mainly to diplomatic disquiet.

But there are clear indications that some governments, including the United States, could take firmer action over the poll in which opposition candidate Corason Aquino claimed she was cheated of victory.

The United States Senate condemned the election result and congressional leaders are seeking to withhold hundreds of millions of dollars in military and economic aid.

A Senate resolution passed by a vote of 85-9 said: "The recent presidential elections in the Philippines were marked by such widespread fraud that they cannot be considered a fair reflection of

the will of the people."

Japan, usually reluctant for historical reasons to be seen to interfere in any way in the affairs of other Asian nations, has already delayed the handover of an agreed aid package worth some \$275 million.

The 12-nation European Community has said it is "deeply concerned" about reports of fraud and violence and most Western European countries have expressed disapproval, hinting at low-level diplomatic retaliation.

However, some European political leaders say the situation in the Philippines is essentially a U.S. problem.

After first issuing statements apparently favouring Mr. Marcos, President Reagan has made it clear he considers the elections were marked by widespread fraud

perpetrated largely by Mr. Marcos' own party.

U.S. special envoy Philip Habib is currently in Manila meeting both government and opposition figures, including Mr. Marcos and Mrs. Aquino, before returning to Washington in the next few days to report to Mr. Reagan and help him formulate the administration's post-election policy.

Meanwhile, a unanimous congressional sub-committee vote in Washington Thursday started a process which could deprive Mr. Marcos of about \$125 million in economic, development and humanitarian aid.

If eventually successful, the move would place the funds in the hands of private rather than government bodies. It would also suspend military aid to Mr. Marcos worth \$55 million.

The first visible effect of the worldwide diplomatic disquiet over the conduct of the poll is expected to be a boycott of Mr. Marcos' inauguration ceremony next

week.

Both the West German and Spanish ambassadors to Manila have been recalled for consultations and in a meeting with Mrs. Aquino Thursday, 14 other West European envoys and the Japanese ambassador indicated none of them would attend the Marcos ceremony.

One of the ambassadors, acting as a spokesman, said the consensus among the Europeans "seems to be coming more and more clear. The ambassadors will not attend the inauguration."

He also said they had not extended congratulations to Mr. Marcos for his election win, proclaimed on Saturday night by the National Assembly "because we do not deem it appropriate."

The Soviet ambassador in Manila, Vadim Shabalim, is the only foreign envoy known to have sent Mr. Marcos a message of congratulations but diplomats in Moscow said they were puzzled by the Soviet attitude.

## British Queen ends trip to Nepal

**KATHMANDU (R)** — Britain's Queen Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip left for New Zealand Friday at the end of a five-day visit to the world's only Hindu kingdom.

The Queen was seen off by Nepal's King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya at an airport ceremony.

Britain's Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, who accompanied the queen on her tour of Nepal, told reporters she was very happy with the trip.

Dressed in a lavender blue coat and matching hat, the queen said goodbye to the Nepalese royal couple after receiving garlands of silver tissue from five brightly dressed girls.

The queen will stop over in Singapore and Melbourne before arriving in Wellington Saturday morning. She will also visit Australia.

The highlight of her Nepal trip was a meeting Thursday with some 170 retired soldiers of the Gurkha force which has served in the British army since 1816.

The veterans included five winners of Britain's highest military award, the Victoria Cross, as well as old men who had walked up to 10 days from their remote mountain villages to reach the capital.

During the visit the queen, who last visited Nepal in February 1961, saw some of the capital's old temples and palaces.

Her husband made a trip to the country's biggest wildlife sanctuary, Royal National Chitwan Park on Tuesday to watch conservation officials bring down a one-horned rhinoceros with a tranquiliser dart before putting a radio collar around its neck to help in tracking it.

## Italian police guard foils attack on official

**ROME (R)** — A police bodyguard Friday foiled an urban guerrilla assassination attempt on an official from the office of Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, shooting dead a woman attacker in a gun-battle on a Rome street.

According to witnesses, three or four people, two of them women, attacked the official early Friday as he stepped out of his car to buy a newspaper.

The official, Antonio Da Empoli, head of an economic analysis department in Mr. Craxi's office, was wounded but not seriously hurt, officials said.

Police sources said a guerrilla leaflet was found on the scene of the attack but they would not reveal its contents.

One witness told reporters Mr. Empoli was getting back in his car when a woman hiding behind the newstand and two other attackers stepped out and opened fire.

The witness said Mr. Empoli was hit three or four times by the woman behind the newstand.

He said Mr. Empoli's driver, who was also his bodyguard, then jumped out of the car and opened fire rapidly with his revolver, killing the woman.

The witness, who said he saw only three attackers, despite other reports that there were four, said the two surviving guerrillas escaped on a white Vespa motor scooter.

Earlier reports said the bodyguard had also wounded another guerrilla but this could not immediately be confirmed by police or witnesses.

Police said they later detained two people who were being questioned at police headquarters but it had not yet been ascertained whether they were connected with the attack.

Police added they had found two abandoned motor scooters believed to have been used by the guerrillas, near the scene of the attack, in northern Rome close to the Italian Foreign Ministry.

Forensic experts found 15 cartridge cases on the ground where the attack took place, in a small street leading from Mr. Empoli's home.

Also found on the ground were a 38 calibre revolver used by the killed woman and a German-made machine pistol in a bag she was carrying.

Mr. Empoli said in a television interview from his hospital bed that he had thrown himself under the car when he realised he was being shot at. Doctors said he was wounded in the hand and leg.

Police said that a woman's wig had been found at the scene of the attack, indicating that one of the guerrillas earlier thought to have been a woman could in fact be a man.

They added that the dead guerrilla was wearing a bullet-proof vest and that she was killed by a shot to the neck.

Mr. Empoli worked from 1977 to 1983 for the European Commission in Brussels, officials said.

## Army called out in protest-hit Kashmir

**NEW DELHI (Agencies)** — The army was called out in a second Kashmir town hit by protests between Hindus and Muslims, a news report said, as authorities in several states brace for more sectarian clashes Friday.

The violence was triggered by the reopening of a disputed holy place in Uttar Pradesh, northern India. Muslims say the site is a mosque, while Hindus consider it an ancient temple to the God Lord Rama.

Twenty-seven people have been reported killed and more than 500 people hurt in sectarian strife during the past week involving Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. Hindus and Muslims have fought in at least seven states over the reopening of the shrine in Uttar Pradesh.

Three cities in Uttar Pradesh are under curfew due to violence and arson.

The United News of India said the army was called out in Anantnag, about 31 miles from Kas-

hmir's curfew-bound capital, Srinagar, after violence flared in nearby villages.

Soldiers were called out Thursday in nearby Wampoh after widespread arson and looting by Muslim mobs, and more than 20,000 paramilitary troops were rushed to Kashmir, a predominantly Muslim Himalayan state.

Muslim youths in Kashmir have been holding protest rallies against the reopening of the shrine. Several Hindu houses, shops and vehicles were burned in Srinagar on Thursday as schools, banks and offices remained closed.

In Calcutta, border security troops marched through troubled city districts after Muslims held a protest rally.

Meanwhile, two Sikhs convicted for the murder of Indira Gandhi won appeals Friday against their solitary confinement in death-row cells when a New Delhi court said their sentences were not final.

## Marcos reportedly selling paintings, U.S. real estate

**NEW YORK (R)** — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife, Imelda, have been trying for the past nine months to sell off huge portions of their art and U.S. real-estate holdings, NBC nightly news has reported.

Signs that the couple were trying to convert their assets into cash first popped up last spring when major art works began appearing on the market, NBC said.

Among the paintings for sale was a Monet, which had been bought by Mrs. Marcos in London in the 1970s, offered for between

\$2 million and \$2.5 million, the network said Thursday.

Cash from the sale was deposited into a Swiss bank account, it said.

NBC News, citing confidential sources who included art dealers, said pieces of a collection of Asian art owned by Mrs. Marcos were also coming up for sale.

Many galleries and auction houses refused to handle the art objects because of the secrecy surrounding them and questions on the legitimacy of their title, NBC said.

## Sri Lankan troops kill 40 Tamil rebels

**COLOMBO (R)** — Sri Lankan troops killed 40 guerrillas in a gunbattle in the eastern Amparai district, the Defence Ministry said Friday.

A spokesman said the battle erupted two days ago when security forces were searching rice fields for guerrillas who had abducted and killed five Muslims. No further details were immediately available.

Sri Lanka's parliament extended a national state of emergency as ethnic violence continued and troops searched troubled areas for guerrillas.

Parliament voted 128 to two Thursday night to extend the emergency, hours after President Jun-

ius Jayewardene set nine conditions for resolving the conflict between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

The emergency, first imposed in May 1983, gives security forces extra powers to tackle guerrillas fighting to set up a separate Tamil State in northern and eastern areas.

Tamils, who form 12.6 per cent of the island's 15 million people, are demanding a separate state because they say the Sinhalese dominated government discriminates against them.

Mr. Jayewardene, opening a new session of parliament, said Tamils would have to accept nine conditions before any agreement

to resolve the problem could be implemented.

One condition was that they should accept the island's constitution and abandon their demand for a separate state.

Mr. Jayewardene said guerrillas should also renounce violence, disband their groups and surrender their weapons within one month of any agreement being reached.

Meanwhile fifteen people were killed and 24 injured when a bus plunged down a 100 metre precipice in Sri Lanka's central province Friday, state radio said.

It said the bus was going from Badulla to Mahiyangama when it veered off the road.

## Grenadians hail Reagan as 'liberator'

**ST GEORGE'S, Grenada (R)** — President Reagan has been hailed as a liberator by the people of Grenada, the tiny Caribbean nation he sees as the capstone of his efforts to stop the spread of Communism in the Western hemisphere.

Mr. Reagan, during a four-and-a-half-hour visit to the island Thursday, revelled in addressing a large, cheering rally at Queen's Park, where U.S. forces set up a command post during the Oct. 1983, invasion that ousted a radical Marxist governing faction.

Mr. Reagan, cheered on by the partisan crowd, swiped verbally at Cuban leader Fidel Castro and the leftist Sandinista government of Nicaragua.

"Castro's tyranny still weighs heavy on the shoulders of his people and threatens the peace and freedom of the hemisphere," he said.

Mr. Reagan said that Mr. Castro had turned the once thriving Cuban economy into "a basket case" and that the freedoms of Nicaraguans were "slowly but surely" being eaten away in a pattern similar to that of Cuba.

People waved signs welcoming

"Mr. Reagan, the hero," and saying "Thank you for saving our lives," as the president spoke of the importance of freedom to economic progress.

Mr. Reagan said he would never regret his decision to send almost 7,000 American troops to Grenada in an operation during which 19 American soldiers died.

A senior administration official told reporters after Mr. Reagan met leaders of nine Caribbean democracies that all had agreed they did not want to see "any more Communist beachheads" in the region.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the leaders also expressed concern that if a power vacuum developed in Haiti following the departure of President Jean-Claude Duvalier two weeks ago "Cubans, Soviets and Liberals" could take advantage of the situation.

The Caribbean leaders, who discussed economic and security issues with Mr. Reagan, also recognised that U.S. aid was not likely to grow because of domestic budget restraints and, in fact, might well fall, the official said.

But he added that Mr. Reagan pledged to go back to Congress on sugar import quotas placed on U.S. imports in the farm bill.

In signing the bill, the president had signalled his objection to the sugar provisions and told the leaders Thursday he would continue to oppose them.

During his whirlwind visit, Mr. Reagan also laid a wreath at a memorial on the grounds of St. George's Medical School to the 19 American servicemen killed during the invasion.

The safety of the 800 students was one of Mr. Reagan's stated reasons for the military operation. The administration also sought to head off what it saw as the establishment of a Soviet-Cuban surrogate in the Caribbean basin.

After the solemn ceremony, Mr. Reagan held meetings with Grenada's Governor General Sir Paul Soong and Prime Minister Herbert Blaize.

He also announced several initiatives to help the eastern Caribbean countries including an expanded U.S.-funded scholarship scheme, access to the United States for regional textiles and a joint plan to modernise judicial systems.

## 20,000 flee as U.S. river dike breaks

**SAN FRANCISCO (R)** — A river dike in northern California burst Thursday night after a week of heavy rain, forcing an estimated 20,000 people to leave their homes, state officials said Friday.

The collapse of the dike, on the Yuba River about 160 kilometres north east of San Francisco, sent flood waters several feet deep pouring through the town of Liada towards nearby Olivehurst.

Nancy Hardaker, a spokeswoman for the state Office of Emergency Services, said the two towns' combined population of 19,000 was told to leave immediately.

She said 20 American Red Cross shelters were opened in nearby communities and at Beale Air Force Base.

Officials at the military base said they expected between 5,000 and 8,000 people there overnight.

As flooding increased in the interior valleys, residents living near the coast began returning home as waters there receded.

More than 1,000 people were

evacuated by military helicopters earlier in the week from Guerneville on the Russian River and another 5,000 left their homes in Napa in the heart of the state's main wine-producing region.

Nearly half the 30,000 acres (12,000 hectares) of vineyards north of Napa was flooded but growers said most of their vines might survive if the water drained soon.

For the first time in nearly a week, roads linking northern California and Nevada were opened Thursday through the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Passenger train services to northern California remained blocked by landslides in the mountains and floods in the lower valleys.

As the rain stopped in California, heavy snow was reported in Colorado and Wyoming to the east. High water was threatening dams in Utah and several towns were partially flooded in Nevada.

## 40 injured in Bangladesh Martyrs' Day clashes

**DHAKA (R)** — At least 40 people were wounded Friday when supporters of rival Bangladeshi opposition groups flourished knives and throwing Molotov cocktails fought for control of an emotional language day celebration in Dhaka.

Police said fighting broke out when members of two groups tried to place portraits of their leaders at the top of a monument symbolising national pride for Bangla, the official language.

Hundreds of thousands of people filed barefoot past the monument where four students were killed and 200 wounded by police fire 34 years ago for demanding that Bangla become the state language when the country was still part of Pakistan.

The 15-party and seven party opposition alliances had called for a large turnout to make "Ekushey" (Martyr's Day) a protest against four years of military rule.

But the groups clashed over the hanging of portraits of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Ziaur Rahman. Mujibur was killed in the 1975 military coup and Ziaur was shot dead in an attempted coup by rebel army officers in 1981.

A police spokesman told reporters that 10 of the wounded had been admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital with serious knife wounds. The others would be discharged after treatment.

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## Palau votes in plebiscite to decide on semi-independence

**KOROR, Palau (R)** — Palau, a small but strategic island group in the West Pacific, voted Friday in a plebiscite to decide whether to become semi-independent after 39 years of U.S. rule.

A U.N. team of observers from Britain, France, Fiji and Papua New Guinea kept watch as the 10,000 islanders voted on a compact of free association which would give them independence in everything except defence.

Two previous referendums in

1983 and 1984 failed because they did not secure a 75 per cent majority to override anti-nuclear clauses in the Palau constitution.

Under the compact, the United States would pump in about \$3 billion in aid and would be responsible for the security of the U.N. trust territory for 50 years.

Two neighbouring states, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, have endorsed similar agreements with the United States.

Gen. Ershad Thursday presented "Ekushey Padak" (Martyr's Day Medal) to 18 writers and musicians, some of whom are known to be critical of his rule, but defied an opposition call to refuse the award.

More than 10,000 students staged a protest march on Feb. 21, 1982 after Pakistan's founding father, Mohammed Ali Jinnah declared Urdu the country's official language.

The students said Bangla should be the state language because nearly 90 million people spoke Bangla in what was then Eastern Pakistan.

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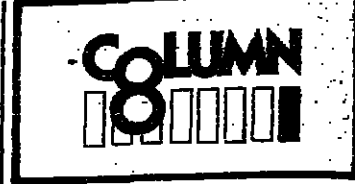
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## Rama Rao owes large tax dues

**NEW DELHI (R)** — The chief minister of India's Andhra Pradesh state, who won fame as a film star playing Hindu Gods, owes 2.26 million rupees (\$188,000) in back taxes, a government minister said Friday.

N.T. Rama Rao, a tall, imposing figure who still wears the saffron robes of a Hindu monk after his 35-year film career, became chief minister in 1983 when his Telugu Desam Party won power from the Congress (I) Party.

Minister of State for Finance Janardhana Poojary told parliament in New Delhi that Mr. Rao, now a respected politician, was one of 54 film stars who owed taxes totalling more than 58.6 million rupees (\$4.8 million). He said steps were being taken to recover the money.

Last November, tax inspectors raided homes of nearly 200 film stars in Bombay, India's Hollywood, and seized hundreds of account books and records. Top Indian film stars earn up to \$25,000 per film, but officials say much of the money is not declared to tax authorities.

Mr. Rao worked from 1977 to 1983 for the European Commission in Brussels, officials said.

## Geldof delighted by Nobel nomination

**LONDON (R)** — Irish rock star Bob Geldof, organiser of the Live Aid charity concerts which raised millions of dollars to fight African famine, has said he was delighted to be nominated for the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize.

Geldof, nominated too late for last year's prize, is one of 85 nominees. Others include South African anti-apartheid campaigners Nelson and Winnie Mandela, the environmental group Greenpeace, and the International Olympic Committee.

"Live Aid was like a shooting star that was beautiful for a moment and will stay in the memory as being beautiful," Geldof said of last July's concerts in London and Philadelphia.

"So to be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for such a thing is very pleasing. I am delighted," The Band Aid Trust charity, which Geldof formed in December 1984, raised \$60 million (\$84 million) for famine relief in nine months, its auditors said.

Yul Brynner sends anti-smoking message

**NEW YORK (R)** — Actor Yul Brynner, who died last October after a two year battle with lung cancer, videotaped an emotional message before his death in which he pleaded with people not to smoke, a spokesman for the American Cancer Society said.

Brynner, best known for his portrayal of the King of Siam in the stage play and movie *The King and I*, bequeathed the 30-second tape to the society. It will be shown on television stations throughout the United States, the spokesman said.

In his message, Brynner, who died aged 65, said he wanted to make a full commercial toward the end of his life, but was too sick to do so. His message, brief and to the point, says: "Ladies and gentlemen, this is Yul Brynner. I really wanted to make a commercial, but I discovered I was too sick and my time was too limited. Now that I am gone, I want to tell you: Don't smoke. Whatever you do, don't smoke. If I could take back that smoking, I wouldn't be taking any cancer. I am convinced of that." Before he was diagnosed as having lung cancer in 1983 Brynner admitted to smoking up to 80 cigarettes a day.

Retired Ballerina makes Miami appearance

**MIAMI (R)** — Prima Ballerina Dame Margot Fonteyn stepped out of her seven-year retirement just long enough to bestow Miami audiences with two performances of the Sleeping Beauty before flying back to her Panama home.

Her performance with the touring Sadler Wells Royal Ballet Company, the 67-year-old, British prima donna of dance made her first appearance since her gala farewell in May, 1979.

According to Peter Wright, director of the British-based company, Fonteyn's presence here was the highlight of the company's current North and South American tour, its first since 1951.

"Originally it was suggested she be present in a celebrity role at the gala," said Wright. "But I said that if she was going to come, she should be on stage, and Margot agreed. It was quite wonderful. For two nights Fonteyn packed the county auditorium here with her performance at the role of the Queen Mother."

Her presence gave something very special to the company, Wright said of Fonteyn.

## Soviet agent flees to West with son, woman friend

**WASHINGTON (R)** — An important Soviet intelligence agent has defected to the West with his son and a woman friend, leaving his wife and another child behind, U.S. intelligence sources say.

Western sources told Reuters Thursday the defectors were Viktor Gudarev, a KGB agent stationed in Athens since 1983, his son Maxim, eight, and a female Soviet teacher linked to the agent romantically.

They said he was in the United States, but officially the U.S. government had no comment.

The teacher was not identified. The sources said the Russian left his wife in Athens and another child in Moscow.

Gudarev, who was not listed among Soviet diplomats in Athens, had been in Greece since 1983 officially working on maritime matters for his embassy. Earlier, he had been stationed in New Delhi.

He was seen as a more significant spy catch for the West than the widely reported defection last May from Greece of Sergei Bokhan, deputy station chief of the Soviet military intelligence unit, GRU.

The defection comes as the U.S. intelligence community is trying to